

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

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No. 8

The President's Desk

The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations is the largest child-welfare organization in the world.

It has a thoroughly organized method for baby-saving which makes it possible to reach mothers all over the country.

In addition to its own large membership, it has the coöperation of 30,000 women who are reaching mothers, and sending their names.

The Congress has proved through education of mothers in infant hygiene that seventy per cent. of infant mortality is prevented.

Through arrangements with the Department of Interior Bureau of Education bulletins on "The Care of the Baby" are sent to mothers and other educational guidance placed at their service. In some states the Congress provides bulletins on "Care of the Baby" in five languages.

Through nation-wide organization it is easily possible for the Congress to save the lives of 100,000 babies in 1916. The campaign for baby-saving extends throughout the entire year, and only needs your support to enable the Congress to reach its goal of

One hundred thousand babies saved in 1916.

Will you help by work and by money? Then organize a Child Hygiene Committee in your Circle, and send for instructions as to how to work, or send a check to Mrs. W. F. Thacher, Treasurer, 910 Loan and Trust Bldg., Washington, D. C.

New York City children are receiving the benefit of real mothers' care by the Mothers' Pension.

The Child-Welfare Board announces that it is to begin to remove from private institutions the dependent widows' children quartered in those places at the city's expense. Cases of more than 30 of these children have been investigated. City Charities Commissioner Kingsbury, who is ex-officio a member of the board, said that there are more than 2,000 children now in private institutions in this city who will be withdrawn therefrom under the provisions of the act and placed again in their own homes under their mothers' control. At present the city is paying \$2.50 to \$3 a week for the maintenance of these children in the institutions, and many of them, according to testimony at the Charities inquiry are not getting as good an education as they would if they were out of the institution.

Without any criticism of the institutions, no one can doubt that to have a real home and a real mother is better than the best managed institution. Blessed will be the widows and the orphans when the advantages of this beneficent law are understood, when it is a law in every state.

Texas members of the Congress gave a state-wide appeal for everyone to join in celebrating Child-Welfare Day, February 17.

**Texas Mothers
Awaken Wide In-
terest in Child-
Welfare Day**

One of the most comprehensive and interesting accounts of the various accomplishments of the Congress was prepared. It covered more than an entire newspaper page. It appeared illustrated in eight of the leading dailies of Texas, and in eleven other papers without illustration. It will interest thousands in the work of the Congress and other states can use this article advantageously.

The majority of women have long been woefully ignorant of physiology and personal hygiene, and have taken no active vital interest as to whether the preparation of physicians fits them to deal with cases where human life hangs in the balance.

**State Bureau of
Medical Inspection
in Pennsylvania
Condemns Obstet-
rical Teaching and
Practice**

Many a woman is kept in ignorance of the causes which have made operations necessary, and the average woman in bearing her children seems to be subjected to dangers of which she has no realization if the following report of a special committee to study obstetrical care is correct.

Admitting that standards of obstetrics are lower in the United States than in any European nation, that State laws are in a chaotic condition, and that Pennsylvania is far from leadership in obstetrical work, representatives of the medical colleges of Pennsylvania and of the State Bureau of Medical Inspection, and a special committee of the New Jersey Legislature met at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, to formulate recommendations for improvement.

More than half the doctors in the State are entirely unfit to practice obstetrics and more than half the so-called experts on hospital staffs are worse than useless in teaching it, was the charge made by Dr. John M. Baldi, chief of the State Bureau of Medical Inspection and Licensure. Most doctors have degenerated into mere prescription writers, he said, and are even worse than midwives in a confinement case.

The Bureau is held up in its work because the schools are not even ready to give efficient instruction under a low standard. The public is abominably served at the hands of hospital teaching staffs, and in a majority of cases an interne is graduated better qualified to teach than the expert who taught him, it was declared.

The world war is responsible for an added interest in maternity cases, said Dr. Edward P. Davis, professor of obstetrics at Jefferson. Waste of life and human suffering have been so great that human life is no longer cheap. It costs too much to kill and legislative bodies, recognizing this fact, must raise standards. Obstetrics have not improved in method, although every other branch of surgery and medicine has advanced.

Uniform State laws, or a Federal law, for education is requisite before any real step in advance can be taken, according to Dr. George H. Boyd, Medico-Chirurgical College. Dr. Charles Edward Ziegler, of Magee Hospital, Pittsburgh, who sent a paper, demanded that a fifth year be added to the medical course to be spent in confinement cases in hospitals before diplomas are granted.

Dr. John E. James, of Hahnemann, said: "We must demand of all schools adequate clinical material and efficient instruction in delivery cases. State aid to bring the facilities of all hospitals up to standard must be unsparingly given, and we must insist on an amount of study and research that will prepare students to meet any emergency. Schools now send internes to hospitals with harm to both the hospital and the interne.

"Obstetric work is of incalculable value to the lives and welfare of every woman in the State, but Pennsylvania is criminally remiss in its requirements and supervision."

Practically every obstetrician of prominence in the city, as well as doctors

from New York and New Jersey, were present at the conference, which will, it is hoped, result in a nation-wide movement for Federal laws on medical education.—*The Evening Bulletin*.

There is no subject more properly belonging to a Congress of Mothers to study than the care given to women who are to become mothers.

Deaths of both child and mother are all too frequent, and cannot be called visitations of Providence when they occur through carelessness or ignorance of the physician. Unnecessary suffering at such times should be alleviated when it can be done safely, and whether it can be done safely is a matter on which intelligent women should be informed.

When State legislatures and a State Bureau of Medical Inspection make such assertions as to incompetency in obstetrics there must be good ground for women who are affected thereby to take the matter into serious consideration and investigation.

Mrs. Mary C. C. Bradford, Superintendent of Public Instruction in Colorado, has consented to serve as a member of the editorial board of CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE.

Mrs. M. C. C. Bradford Joins Editorial Staff

Mrs. Bradford is one of the most earnest active members of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, and is everywhere advising the organization of Parent-Teacher Associations.

Her service to the magazine will be valuable and the editorial board welcome her as a member.

Looking Up

No man can look up and think vile things,
Nor know evil nor dwell in evil long,
Whose vision is on the blue sky where God
sings
And the voice of divine beauty is in the song.

No man, either, can look on a little child
And feel an impure impulse in his heart,
But only the joy of the innocent and the wild
Glee that of childhood is so great a part.

And so in the struggle and stress of the hard
day,
The moil and grind and the old belittling
strife,
To look up is to see that the shadows pass
away
And the calm of a holy beauty floods over life.

That is why from the mountain to look off
into blue space

One's soul is transported to images vast and
rare,
And the light of a new dream burns glowingly
on the face,
And nothing unclean or sensual is pictured
there.

No man can dwell long with a noble woman
and not feel
The nobler impulse of purity searching his
mind,
As he comes to stand out against wrong like
true steel,
And to be gentle and helpful and kind.

To look up is to look on and to see clear,
To feel clean and to know how—after long
trial—
To sing in the shadows that formerly held
you in fear,
And to go through the day with a song and a
smile.
—THE BENTZTOWN BARD.

Captivating Courtesy

By EMMA GARY WALLACE

Courtesy is commendable wherever it is found. It adds true beauty to life and when it is *genuine clear through*, is a jewel of purest water.

But courtesy, like some of our modern jewels, needs to be carefully tested. Things are not always what they seem. There is upon the market a variety of semi-precious gems known as doublets. Such stones are so called because they are in two parts skillfully joined together. The lower portion is a clever imitation in the exact coloring and style of the upper section, which is of genuine, precious stone. An emerald or a ruby doublet has every appearance of being the real thing—and so it is on top.

A fair-sized single gem will make several doublets by using artificial foundations. Of course the value of the doublet is much less than that of the article genuine all the way through, although it may take some one fairly expert to detect the difference.

Courtesy which is saved exclusively for those outside the home circle is like the doublet. It has some value but it is not the genuine article clear through, for it has an artificial foundation. True courtesy is a quality of the mind which expresses itself everywhere and especially to those nearest and dearest.

If we crave the grace of courtesy for our children, we must look well to our own bulwarks. We cannot expect to "gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles." We cannot give what we do not possess. We must expect to set exactly the sort of a copy we desire to have followed. It is useless to talk courtesy to our children and to indulge ourselves in expressions of impatience, carping criticism, and irritable fault-finding. A wise man has said truly: "What you are speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say."

THE UNRAVELING OF THE THREAD

Courtesy is not like a copper wire or an iron chain. It is a twisted thread of many strands. A few of these are cheerfulness, thoughtfulness, unselfishness, patience, consideration for the rights of others, kindness, and love.

The surly individual is never associated in our minds with cheerfulness or courtesy. We can scarcely think of a courteous person who is not also a cheery, kindly one.

Why isn't a cheerful "good morning" as much a duty to our own children as to the occasional guest? We certainly wish as earnestly for their welfare—their good morning—as for that of any one else. It surely means a day nicely begun for us to have the members of our own family meet us with a loving greeting. It is a little thing and yet how many times the immediate family gathers hastily about the breakfast table without a kindly word or glance for each other.

If Johnny is requested with a cheerful countenance to help mother by bringing a loaf of bread from the bakery as soon as that game of checkers is finished, it will become a pleasant obligation for him to go, whereas a curt command to "Hustle along to the bakery this minute and bring a loaf of bread," will arouse a spirit of antagonism because of the domineering injustice of the manner and the inconsideration shown in expecting him to leave just when he is almost ready to jump his last men into the king row.

A beautiful young girl about to be married said recently: "I have been an orphan since I was eight and so have lived in other people's homes nearly all my life. What has puzzled me is why so many save their cheerful courtesy for outsiders and starve the very ones they love best. It shall

be different in my home because I will appreciate it and my own loved ones so much." Courtesy is an expression of appreciation.

It gets to be a habit—cheerfulness or gloominess, optimism or pessimism. A woman with weary eyes and deeply lined face was heard to say longingly the other day: "It isn't easy for me to smile. My lips and muscles feel stiff. We didn't do much smiling in my home when I was a girl. Somehow I never got the habit." It was impossible for her to inherit money but she might have had a patrimony of good cheer.

There is so much for our children to combat in the world, so much for them to struggle against that it is the least we can do for them to make them strong and kindly and courageous by surrounding them with true courtesy.

THOUGHTLESSNESS A MENACE TO HOME HAPPINESS

The thoughtless member of the family is sure to be the discourteous one. Meals are kept waiting to the inconvenience of others; garments, newspapers, or books are thrown about for some one else to pick up; regular duties which make for the smooth operation of the home machinery are forgotten, because some one is inexcusably, selfishly thoughtless.

A determined effort on the part of older people will overcome personal weaknesses of this kind and systematic training of the young will bend the twig in the right direction.

After a happy residence in a home of great culture and refinement, the head of the house was observed to be constantly thoughtful of every one about him. It was not surprising therefore, to hear his wife say: "We have enjoyed over twenty years of life together without a single disagreement quarrel. I think it is because my husband has been so unvaryingly thoughtful. It has become a habit with us all."

Of course, the children in that home were courteous. It was a pleasure to put father's slippers before the register to warm, to see that his paper

was folded to the editorials he liked to read first, to be quiet when visitors were present so as not to disturb, to tell him the events in their school life that pleased them, while he was appreciative enough to remember that what might appear trivial to him was of great moment to them. A grade card represented a whole month's work and was worthy of earnest discussion; a success in spelling down the other side in a match, cause for congratulation, also a reminder that all did not have an equal home advantage of good books and papers.

Then, too, his beautiful consideration of the mother and hers of him set a never-to-be-effaced example. Not for one moment would he have tolerated a word or look of disrespect. The boys had safely reached and been wisely led through "the know-it-all stage," because they never had been allowed to take the bits in their teeth and prance away at their own sweet will. Yet they and their parents were the best of chums.

With very little children definite training in thoughtfulness should be pursued. If baby kicks and screams at the table, he will soon understand that such conduct leads to banishment. If a well child demands constant attention it is the parents' fault for considering the little one a plaything and later tiring of the routine they themselves have established. When three-year-old Jennie tiptoes and shuts doors quietly because mama has a headache she is learning to be thoughtful. As soon as a child understands that he must not be late for school because it disturbs all the rest unnecessarily, a lesson in thoughtfulness is gained. And when he learns to see and do small helpful acts on his own initiative, the good seed surely has taken root.

THE TRULY COURTEOUS FORGET SELF

It has been said that courtesy is consideration of the rights of others. In other words, one of the strands of the threads is unselfishness. Selfishness is a placing of self first regardless of rights or feelings of others. Chil-

dren are naturally self-centered. They are likely to want what they want intensely and to be oblivious to the convenience or rights of others. To try to teach children the right and wrong of every situation individually is a tedious process. Better to teach them the principle of "the good of the many," then make them strong by helping them to apply it.

Roland was extravagantly fond of squash prepared as his mother prepared it. There was not a liberal allowance for the family. Yet Roland wanted the larger part of it for himself. His doting grandparents said, "It is good for him. Let him have it!" but his father said, "It cannot be good to teach Roland to be selfish by indulging him to favor his own desires at the cost of others." So he explained to the child in a cheerful, kindly manner that families share with each other. One does not have four or five pair of shoes and the rest go without, that if we really love others we wish to share with them. Roland was thoughtful a moment, then took a small helping and passed the dish.

Two little boys who were quarreling over the possession of a stove poker were told by their adopted mother to hold on tightly to the disputed article for a few moments. Then she explained that the one who conquered his own selfish nature and rather than quarrel needlessly was willing to allow another to have what he also wanted, was the nobler of the two. The poker fell to the floor with a bang as both children dropped it simultaneously. There are no bad children. There are sick ones and incorrigible ones perhaps and spoiled and mistaught and neglected ones but in every normal child is the better nature which may be reached if only the right way is sought and found.

THE STRAND OF PATIENCE

The courteous home is the one in which patience is cultivated. Patience does not mean allowing children to have their own way to the detriment of themselves or others. Rather it

means a sympathetic understanding which refrains from over-impulsiveness, unreasonableness, and irritability.

"Parents provoke not your children to wrath," is as good advice now as ever it was. The voice which grates because of its monotonous fiber of fault-finding, the nagging manner, the failure to understand outside conditions the child has to meet—are all causes of lack of sympathetic understanding, of patience.

The mother complains John will not wear the pretty Russian blouses she has made him. He doesn't explain why but perhaps is downright naughty. Possibly he doesn't know *how* to tell the long story about the boys calling him a sissy and a pretty little girl because he wears dresses. In the struggle he decided his mother doesn't understand anything about his troubles and perhaps he never loses the idea and the beginning of the future breach is made. A cracked dish is never made entirely whole again.

Boys and girls are extremely sensitive to ridicule or to that which makes them conspicuous. All whims can not be humored but it is well to exercise patience until the merits of the case are determined.

It is a characteristic of the human race that once it has taken a stand, whether it be right or wrong, it retreats therefrom only with the greatest difficulty. Patience often leads to a better understanding and prevents parents and teachers taking unwise attitudes. When we know all there is to be known we may hesitate concerning our original judgment. Times are different from what they were when we were young and we may as well recognize the changed order of things whether for the better or worse. The old order changeth. We cannot go back but we can meet present conditions as they are intelligently and make the best of them.

Not a few of the younger members of society have gained a certain degree of contempt for home judgments and opinions because they have discovered

that their elders do not know conditions as they are to-day. The line of least resistance often leads to seeming acquiescence but real deceit. Home courtesy will not flourish without continued confidence.

CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS

One of the courtesy-principles which should be instilled at home is consideration for the rights and property of others. The child who has learned this lesson will be an honest child, a joy to his teachers, and will have made a long start toward a successful career.

If Henry is tardy two minutes and there are thirty children in the room, he has caused his room to lose one hour of valuable time. He has no right to do it.

If Mary knocks down Susie's cap and coat when she hangs her own up and does not replace the fallen garments, she has proven herself indolent and unfair for she has disarranged things to her own advantage without effort to make it right. She has ignored the prior right of Susie.

A distressed teacher pointed out a ragged hole cut right through a perfectly good table leaf in a room in which his class had been assembled. Would you need to be told that that boy had never been given a proper respect for the furnishings at home? If he had he would have had no desire to mutilate similar articles away from home.

Childhood should have ample opportunity for pure fun and home joys but that does not mean they are to be trained in destructiveness. There is no fun in that for themselves or others. The habit becomes a liability instead of an asset.

A small boy whose people, by nature of their occupation, lived in furnished houses, proved very disagreeable to the neighbors because he would put muddy feet on upholstered furniture, mark polished surfaces, and handle books roughly. "The things at home are not ours so we do not need to be careful," he would explain with satisfaction.

The owners of the furnishings were dishonestly dealt by but that wasn't the end of the matter. That boy will never appreciate true values. In his own home and life he is bound to be a constant loser. In the end he will have injured himself most of all.

Dishonesty does not always call for dark lantern and skeleton key methods. To disregard or misuse the rights or property of others is dishonest. Children should be taught personal responsibility for their own belongings and respect for the rights of others, to know that careless habits which cause unnecessary work are despicable, that the manly boy or the womanly girl is as much to be trusted out of sight as in it.

CONCERNING KINDNESS

It has often been remarked that in the association of children with children there is frequently a barbaric frankness which borders very closely on unkindness. Henry has no hesitation in telling Tommy that the watch over which he is so delighted is tin, that the new shoes look like a girl's, or that the treasured bicycle is no good. Maybe all these facts are true but it is neither necessary nor kind to say so. We do not need to teach our children to deceive but rather to be kind. An excellent way to do this is to be kindly in our conversation before them and to avoid the criticism or remark that would wound were it heard by the person about whom it is made.

When mistakes are made by our juniors, it is well to point out the unlovely disposition which prompts such conduct and to show that after all we ourselves are most injured by an unkind word or deed.

SOME CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

Two enemies to home courtesy are lack of sleep and improper food. An adult or a child starved for refreshing sleep with good ventilation is an irritable person. An individual fed on foods which the system cannot assimilate or properly eliminate is not going

to be clear-brained and responsive to right impulses. There is no more important business than furnishing the right kind of food to the family and arranging work and play so that plenty of sleep is possible.

Corrections made in public are of little avail because they destroy self-respect. If we criticize our own, even in a half humorous way to outsiders, we must not complain if they do the same. They have not the call to loyalty we have. If we would have others respect our own we must do the same.

Commands may be given in such a way as to make a rude response almost certain.

THE EXTERIOR EXPRESSION

The outward expression of courteous manners is easily learned if the underlying principles are present.

Even the little child will understand that to eat noisily is annoying; that to sit down before the hostess has given the signal by being seated herself is thoughtless as she alone knows when all is in readiness; that to remain seated when an older person enters the room is a selfish way of saying one does not intend to give up his seat; that to contradict is unkind and impatient; that to be late for an appointment is thoughtless, selfish, and lacking in consideration; that to fail to proffer kindly, helpful services for those about us is selfish, an evidence of lack of thoughtfulness and natural indolence.

A FEW PRINCIPLES OF ACTION

To attempt to keep the delicate parts of a watch going by continually prodding it with a pin would become

wearisome. The mainspring is much more reliable and convenient for that purpose. If we could discover a mainspring by which all the virtues enumerated might be kept in harmonious motion, we would find the friction of life greatly lessened.

Such a mainspring there is, if we have but discrimination enough to discover it, and sufficient wisdom to possess ourselves of it. It is free to all. The law of courtesy is the law of divine love. "Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another."

It is not enough to refrain from unkind speech. Our minds and hearts must be so full of love that we will abhor that which is unkind even in thought. "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he," and so may others be influenced also. There is a mental wireless not yet clearly understood, but nevertheless potent, so let us guard our mental homes for our own sakes and for the sakes of those about us.

Let us remember that to be gloomy is to indulge in self-pity; to be impatient is to lack sympathy; to fail in consideration for others is to be dishonest; to be unkind is to be cruel.

But introduce love and it will actuate the positive qualities of cheerfulness, thoughtfulness, unselfishness, patience, consideration, and kindness. Truly, love is one of the mightiest factors in the world for actualizing courtesy at home and abroad. Where it is found as the foundation, the jewel is never a doublet. It is genuine and imperishable.

In the list of New Books in the March issue the name of the author of "Outlines of Child Study" was incorrectly given. It should have been W. A. McKeever.

The Ford School for Teaching English to Foreigners

By MRS. FREDERIC SCHOFF

One of the greatest and most beneficial developments of the Ford automobile plant is the school for teaching English.

One day, workmen who were native Americans or Englishmen protested against the men who could not speak English receiving the same wage given to themselves.

"We'll fix that," said Mr. Ford. "We will teach them English."

Five teachers were secured and in a small room partitioned off from the workshops the school had its beginning. Fifty-two languages are represented among the employees, and to give to all of these the use of a common language was the task that faced these teachers.

From the group of teachers there was one who demonstrated within six months that he was the most successful in teaching English, and today Mr. Clinton De Witt is the head of the Ford School with 136 teachers under him and with 2,200 men as pupils.

These men are divided into two sections. One section has its lesson Tuesday and Friday afternoon, the other Monday and Thursday. About a hundred men are in each class. They come in from their work, grimy with their honest toil, eager and appreciative of their opportunity.

"Now boys," says Mr. De Witt, "what are you?"

"I am an American" is the loud reply from a hundred voices, in unity.

Now say "Open." "Open" comes from every throat. "Awake," again the word is repeated. "Look" comes next, and again the loud response, "Fine," "Good!" "Boys," says the teacher, "you know four American words."

Then with his eyes closed and apparently asleep, the teachers says "I open my eyes" and dramatically performing the action each man repeats "I open my eyes." "Good, now you know an American sentence." Then with dramatic illustration "I awake from sleep" the teacher says,

yawning and stretching himself, and in concert the class repeat "I awake from sleep," and by the action they know what it means.

Then the teacher lays his watch on the table and fumbling all about he repeats "I look for my watch," and after him the words are repeated by the men. Then with "I find my watch" he picks it up and the class repeat in unison "I find my watch."

"Now boys you know four American sentences" the leader exclaims.

Pointing to one he says "Where were you born?" "In Austria" may be the reply, or in Lithuania or Russia. "Are you a Russian?" "No, I am an American" comes the eager reply. Then "You were born in Russia, and you in Austria. Your countries are fighting over there. Are you friends? Do you want to fight?"

"No, we friends," is the reply. Then comes the singing of "America" or the "Star Spangled Banner."

Five months suffices by this interesting cumulative method evolved by Mr. De Witt to give a speaking knowledge of the English language, to bring into unity of language and friendly feeling these men who have sought a higher future for themselves and their children in free America.

It is not English only that is taught in their five months of school. It is the truest Americanization of the immigrant in ideals, in habits, in manners and in understanding of the principles of America.

It is not the dead, dull, meaningless teaching of a language by the old way, but in live action, in words and sentences that relate to life, and that convey lessons applicable to the making of a good man and a good American.

The use of the toothbrush, where to buy it, what it costs, how to use it, and how it keeps the breath sweet come into one of the first lessons. Health, Our Flag, Tools, Recreation, Changes at Work, Getting Citizenship Papers are among the many subjects covered in the lessons.

The use of the bathtub, almost unknown in the part of Europe from which these men come, is shown by a miniature bath tub and a doll. The teacher says "I take a bath," "I rub myself with soap and a wash rag," all the time showing by the doll how to do it, and proceeding with the further habits of proper bathing and care of the body.

Proper use of knife, fork, and spoon, ways of drinking from a cup, the habits of good society in saluting a friend, all the customs which distinguish a man of good breeding are shown, and practiced by the men after the teacher's demonstration. These will stand them in good stead as important factors in their advancement.

The graduation exercises of the Ford School are unique and dramatic.

A large ship with the gang plank is shown. Down come the men, women and children in the clothes they wore on landing with bundles in their hands. They enter a huge Iron Pot—called the Melting Pot. While there they change their clothes and come out in American suits and white collars singing "America."

Marching to the exercises are thousands of the previous graduates of the school and to see the pageant of these men marching and singing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" is a sight never to be forgotten by those who participate or by those who see it.

Taken from the many lessons, prepared by Mr. De Witt, a few are appended as showing the simplicity of language, the definiteness and clarity of the facts stated, and their relation to the life of the men.

There would be no hyphenated Americans, no anarchy, if every foreigner might have the advantages of such practical teaching as is given in this school when he first arrives.

There is one further step in patriotic philanthropic education which Mr. Ford might take, a step which would be far-reaching in its influence for good. It would be the simultaneous extension of the same educational opportunities to women who make up the families of these men. The children soon learn English in

the public schools, the men even without a school gradually acquire the language as they go out to work, but the women are left behind.

The mother who should interpret life to her children, from her ignorance of English must depend on the children to interpret life to her.

This condition engenders a lack of respect for the mother, and a lack of motherly control of the children. No one who has had any experience with the foreign children who come into court can fail to see that nothing more important can be done for child-welfare or the making of good homes than to instruct the women in English, and in the principles of wholesome living.

There are night schools in many places for it, but the women are shy and timid in meeting strangers, they are tied down by household duties, and by the attitude of many foreign husbands in opposing that their wives shall go out. A lesson on this subject could be advantageously added to the fine curriculum already in use in the Ford English School, for the American respect and reverence for woman is known only in America, and must be held up to our friends from other parts of the world.

Fathers, mothers, children should have equal opportunities to become true Americans, for to leave the mother behind is a great handicap to husband and children.

What stories these men and women could tell of their lives and of the habits of their countries! Ignorance of the English language does not necessarily mean that the foreigner is ignorant of everything else, and there are many customs and arts in older lands that may be valuable in this new republic.

Americanization is much discussed in the present time, but in Detroit one can see Americanization in action. Were every employer able to do what Mr. Ford is doing under the leadership of Mr. Clinton De Witt, the practical solution of the healthful assimilation of the foreigner would be an accomplished fact.

The Detroit Child-Welfare Conference

No meeting held by the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations exceeds in interest or tangible results that which for several years has been held in conjunction with the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association, which brings together the leaders and administrators of educational work from the entire nation. At this year's conference at Detroit February 21-25, 4,600 men and women were registered—the largest number ever in attendance.

At the opening session Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler gave a remarkable address on the significance of what is going on in the world today. From the dawn of history to the present time Dr. Butler traced the progress and overthrow of peoples and kingdoms, and with deep spiritual insight into the causes and effects of the war. He said in part:

"August 1, the date that marked the opening of the present great war in Europe marked, also, the opening of the great struggle to determine whether our present civilization is to survive or whether we are to enter on a period of social retrogression which will pull us back into even lower depths than those from which we have climbed."

"The wars of Greece against the Orient, represented by Persia in 500 B. C., determined that new individualism of Greek culture was to survive. A thousand years later the victory of Charles Martel determined that Christianity was to rule the world instead of Mohammedanism.

BLESSING OR A CURSE

"The present war in Europe is to determine whether the principle of nationality is to prove a blessing or a curse to the world. It is a blind, unthinking fanaticism that is hurling the nations of Europe against one another today," continued Dr. Butler.

"I am convinced that the present war in Europe is not the result of the ideals of any one people, nor the

result of the leadership of any one man or set of men. It is, rather, the result of a perverted notion of nationalism that has been growing up in the world for the last 1,000 years. The building of nations as an end in themselves gives the clue to the present great cataclysm of men and arms.

"For my part I have the faith to believe that the world is going to profit by its present dire experiences and that we are going forward to a time when men shall work together, plan together and play together regardless of the too restricted, narrow views of nationality that prevailed in the past.

SEES NEW INTERNATIONALISM

"If we learn the lesson of the war it will act as a great purifier of thought and aspiration and we, and all people, will go forward, not to nationalism but to a new internationalism such as the world has never seen. Not alone nationally, but religiously, we shall be improved if we learn to cease worshipping a national or tribal God and learn to serve the God of all.

"It seems to me that the American nation, with all its acknowledged imperfections, has at this time a contribution to make to the world that will be epochal in its effect. We have learned, as the world may learn, that one nation may be made out of 48 nations. We have learned, as the world may learn, that people of diverse language, customs and religions may dwell together in peace under one flag providing each is given its due rights.

"We have developed great leaders whose thought and opinion all the world may well receive. We ask the nations of the world to take Washington and make him theirs; we ask them to take all our leaders that have done so well in developing the principles of federated unity and follow them in the cause of civilization of the world and the eternal betterment of mankind."

DEAN RUSSELL OF TEACHER'S COL-
LEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY,
SCORES ARMY TRAINING IN
SCHOOLS OF NATION

"The common sense of the public is far superior to many of our pedagogic theories, and it will behoove us, as educators, to institute many radical reforms in our schools and colleges during the next decade," said Dean J. E. Russell, founder and dominant head of Teachers' College, Columbia University, addressing 500 alumni of that institution in the Statler hotel ballroom.

"The world war has brought a crisis, not only abroad but in America. We are looking forward into a new era, and new methods will develop rapidly. We educators have a more important work in the world than ever before, and we must be ready for it," he said.

"We have already been asked to introduce military training to our curriculums, and a legislative leader only last week severely censured our state superintendent of education for presuming to inquire among his teachers what their sentiment on preparedness would be.

"A congressional committee chairman has told me that we would be expected to introduce text books on military tactics, and teach this new science at the behest of the war department.

"So it appears that we, too, must settle here the same question that Europe is trying to settle, the question of what rights the individual has; what rights the state has, and what duty the state can exact of the individual.

"As to preparedness, we must be prepared to meet all exigencies, but I do not feel that military training should ever be introduced in the schools. The Boy Scout movement affords a splendid substitute which not only gives the boys discipline and healthy outdoor activity, but teaches them the noblest sentiments and calls into play their strongest instincts.

"I predict the greatest revolution ever witnessed in educational theory

within the next twenty years. We will need a new type of citizenship, and we must have a new type education to serve it."

Professor W. F. Dearborn, of Harvard's educational department, was toastmaster. Other speakers were: J. E. Scott, deputy commissioner of education in New Jersey; Dean F. J. Kelley, of the University of Kansas; Professor E. B. Cubberly, of Leland Stanford University, and President Nicholas Murray Butler, of Columbia University.

Resolutions were afterward passed by the Department of Superintendence in disapproval of military training in public schools.

One could not look over the earnest, fine men and women discussing the system and methods of education without new confidence and assurance that the educational system is in many places being led by men and women of vision, conscientious purpose and marked ability.

Much of the discussion in the sections was confined to the technique of administration, all of which is necessary; that somewhat greater discussion as to whether the schools and the system fit the needs of the child might be advantageous was suggested by some.

The fact that the large proportion of administrators of the school system are men was marked. From the states west of the Mississippi, there were many women who are superintendents of schools, and that they measured up to their responsibilities was evident. Mrs. Bradford, Superintendent of Colorado Schools, is a mother and a grandmother.

She knows life in all its phases, and has the most all around preparation for the place which she so ably fills. Miss McCoy, Superintendent of Idaho Schools, has a splendid grasp on the work, and impressed those who heard her with her ability to lead in good school administration.

The inspiration of Mrs. Ella Flag Young was missed by many, for since her resignation as Superintend-

ent of Chicago Schools she is taking a rest.

The most inspiring work of any city described by the Superintendent is that of the Los Angeles schools, which under the leadership of Mr. D. N. Francis have become neighborhood schools, looking after the general welfare of the children and their parents, instead of limiting their field to instruction from books only. There is a large Mexican population desperately poor and utterly ignorant of home-making or care of children.

The older children would come to school bringing their baby brothers and sisters with them, because father and mother were at work.

Mr. Francis saw an opportunity to relieve the teachers of this extra care and at the same time to give lessons in the care of babies to the girls in the older classes. A building was selected on the school grounds and trained nurses were installed as caretakers of the babies and instructors of the girls, who each week have practical demonstrations in bathing, feeding and clothing of a baby. The parent-teacher association collects clothing for the babies from well-to-do mothers, and quietly renders a real service.

In the Domestic Science Department there are laundry tubs, which out of school hours are placed at the disposal of women who have no conveniences in their homes for washing, and who therefore find it difficult to keep their families clean. These women are encouraged to bring their washing to the school and regularly do it there—learning how to do it in the best way, and cultivating the habit of cleanliness, which to many has been impossible.

A penny luncheon is served to the children daily, and where parents are too poor to pay for it the children receive it free of cost.

Many are the industries that the school is teaching the children. They bring their worn shoes and are taught the art of repairing them. They learn printing, carpentry, etc., and

classes in music or languages are open out of school hours.

There is a director to look out for the occupation of the children in their leisure hours, and it is the proud boast of this neighborhood school that not one child from that district has appeared in the juvenile court. Mr. Francis says that "compulsory education laws do not create an appetite for study, and the way that children shall spend their leisure has become a matter of great importance."

He believes that it is the duty of society to protect the children, and that it is cheaper in the end, even though in so doing the school expense is increased.

The usual school rules are not observed in these schools. There is a greater study of the individual child, and greater effort to meet his needs—in and out of school hours.

No more inspiring note was struck in the conference than this Los Angeles deviation from long-established customs.

A marked feature of advancement was the universal appreciation and recognition of the kindergarten as a constituent and valuable part of the school system.

All the great leaders in kindergartens were present, and a conference of the International Kindergarten Union was given to the discussion of the adjustment of kindergarten with primary grade work. The Detroit kindergartners gave a banquet which was largely attended and ably presided over by Miss Lucy Wheelock, principal of Boston Training School for Kindergartners. Among those in attendance were President Johnson of South Carolina, Dr. Chadsey, former president N. E. A., Dr. Winship, Miss Elizabeth Harrison, president National Kindergarten College, Miss McCulloch, supervisor of St. Louis Kindergarten, Miss Faries, principal Cleveland Training School for Kindergartners, Mrs. Mary Boomer Page, principal Chicago Training School for Kindergartners, and many more well-known leaders in educational work.

The two sessions held by the Na-

tional Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in the ballroom of Hotel Statler brought together men and women from all parts of the country, and a constructive program was given for the greater service to be rendered by Parent-Teacher Associations.

The eager interest of school superintendents was a feature, and a leading educator said: "The parent-teacher association in connection with the schools is the greatest educational movement of the times." Certain it is that there are no more largely attended or enthusiastic meetings than those arranged by the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. The extension of the movement is promoted in a nationwide way by this conference which has come to be an important annual event in the Congress extension work.

The hospitalities extended by Detroit were much appreciated. The Twentieth Century Club and the Detroit Women Principals Associa-

tion entertained many of the delegates at a luncheon and reception; all the schools were open to visitors, as were the automobile factories.

The effects of this great annual meeting of leaders in education are felt throughout the country. New ideas, higher ideals animate those who listen to the splendid forward steps which pioneers dare to take.

A general social gathering with opportunity for personal words and meetings would add to the value of these conferences.

With no registration of the local stopping place of the delegates, it is difficult to find any one. It is manifestly impossible to have all that would be valuable on any program, and often the personal meetings and extension of acquaintance are helpful.

Mr. Durand W. Springer and Dr. Charles Chadsey, city superintendent of schools, who had charge of the arrangements for Detroit conference, are to be congratulated on its success.

The Bargain

By OLIVE HIGGINS PROUTY

"I ain't a-goin' ter church."

The Bother was sitting on the floor, lacing up stout little boots. Aunt was before the mirror, twisting the long switch of gray hair, which looked like the eel in the aquarium at the Museum. She held the end of it tightly between her teeth and smoothed it with the yellow and white celluloid-backed brush.

"I ain't a-goin' ter church."

The Bother spoke louder this time. Aunt took the switch from out of her mouth, but she made no reply. Aunt was never talkative. The Bother got up from the floor.

"Say, Aunt Elizabeth," he almost shrieked, "I say I ain't a-goin' ter church."

Aunt only pressed her lips together tightly.

"If I don't, what?" inquired the Bother.

Aunt turned. The switch was coiled carefully on top of her head now, like a snake asleep.

"Fernald," she said, "I am not going to buy you over. Understand that."

Now that was a very strange thing to say. Who had mentioned buying anything? Aunt always spoke in conundrums.

"If I do, what then?"

"I make no bargains." Aunt turned toward the glass again.

The Bother went downstairs. Now what and where was the bargain? And why did she say she never made bargains when only yesterday she had bought a silk shirtwaist at the bargain counter? He had heard her tell uncle about it at supper last night. And what in the world did going to church have to do with bargains anyway? How funny it all was! Mother never talked like that. He'd

be g'ad when the three terrible months were over, and Mother came back again from across the ocean. He had been told he would like it at Aunt Elizabeth's. He didn't like it. He had been there hardly a month, and he hated it already.

Aunt was very silent at the breakfast table that morning, and the Bother had to tie on his bib himself. Uncle looked up over the top of his gold-bowed glasses.

"What's up?" he said to Aunt.

The Bother was drinking milk. He peeked over the top of the glass at Aunt. She was gazing straight at him, and her lips were pressed so tightly together that her chin looked like an old satin pincushion—all little pin pricks.

"Fernald announces that he is not going to church today, and—well, you know what is in store for him."

There it was again—something about a store. And then there was the bargain and the buying. Aunt had said there was something in the store for him. But what was it? Could it be the bargain, and Aunt would buy it for him if he went to church? Why hadn't Aunt explained in the beginning? It would have saved a lot of trouble.

"If he's to be given a w-h-i-p-p-i-n-g while in this house, you're to give it to him," said Uncle, picking up the morning paper.

Ah! then the gift was to be presented to him by Aunt. And it was to be a surprise. They always spelled surprises. Around Christmas time, and the fifteenth of June (the Bother's birthday) the air was full of the alphabet all twisted around.

"I guess I'll go ter church after all," the Bother remarked.

Uncle look relieved. "That's the chap," he said, "and here's a penny for being a good boy."

"Joseph," Aunt interposed, "that is no way to bring up children."

Uncle put the penny back into his pocket, and winked an eye at the Bother that surely meant "Remember the bargain," and the Bother (who never could manage those one-eye

winks) winked back with both eyes to show he understood.

After breakfast Aunt put on the Bother's best trousers, and a white shirt, with starched collar that scratched around the neck.

"That hurts," the Bother informed her. She made no comment. "Mother always has it soft," he elicited. He might as well have been the wind whistling in the empty fireplace. She didn't seem to hear him. "That ain't the way to do my hair," he remonstrated. "Mother—"

"Don't say 'ain't,'" Aunt shortly snapped.

"That hat ain't the one I wear to church. Mother has me wear my cap. Mother—"

"I'm dressing you, Fernald," announced Aunt. Of course she was! He knew that! She was the queerest woman! She approached him with the velvet hat which he never wore except to parties, and put it on his head, carelessly snapping the tight elastic underneath his chin.

"Ough!" he exclaimed. She whisked away. "Ough!" he exclaimed louder. "Ough! ough! You hurt!" She didn't even turn around. He began to cry; ever-ready tears rolled down his cheeks; he sat down on the floor and screamed.

"Mercy on us! What's the matter, child?" said Aunt, turning around at last. The Bother knew he could accomplish it.

"You hurt my neck with the 'lastic," he sobbed.

"Well, I'm sorry," she said, but she did not wipe away his tears with a soft nice-smelling handkerchief as mother did. Instead she went into the bathroom, and got a towel.

"There!" she ejaculated, "wipe your face. A big boy like you crying!"

Later just as the Bother was starting out of the door, a happy thought struck him. He went back, and took a piece of gum from under the sitting-room shelf, slipped it into his trousers pocket, and then tripped lightly along behind Aunt's blue serge.

"What a sweet little boy!" That

is what a lady said in the vestibule before church. Aunt smiled at her, and then smiled down at the Bother.

"Tell the lady your name, dear," she said, but the Bother was silent. If Aunt could press her lips and keep still, so could he. He would pay Aunt back.

"Tell the lady," Aunt urged. The Bother was never known to be bashful. "Tell her, Fernald."

The Bother simply felt of his chin to see if the pin pricks had come.

"Do you hear me child?" Aunt jerked him by the hand.

"Speak to the lady."

But the Bother only looked at Aunt. Aunt gave it up at last.

"I can't do anything with him," she sighed.

Church was very long. The Bother wondered what would happen if the man in the pulpit forgot and never brought the service to an end. What would the people do? Would they starve? For the first fifteen minutes he sat Turkish fashion, and for the next fifteen minutes he kneeled upon the seat and looked back at the people behind. He stared very hard at a young lady with a pink hat, and she smiled at him, but he would not smile back at her. He was no baby, to be smiled at by every one. He made a face at the young lady instead. Aunt pulled him down at last with a quick little jerk. Then he reached for his hat in the book-rack. He placed the crown of it on his fore-finger and twirled it round and round with his other hand. Really it was almost as good as a top. He would make it go faster and faster, and then would "let the old cat die." But he had forgotten Aunt. Without opening her lips, without taking her eyes from the minister, she snatched the hat quietly from off the finger, and put it the other side of her. The Bother had seen the old dog at home catch flies in the same way. No excitement, no vain endeavoring. He just opened his mouth at the right time and snap! Goodbye to poor little fly. The Bother sighed.

"How much longer is it?" he whis-

pered loudly at Aunt. But Aunt only pressed her lips. "Is it most through?" The pin pricks appeared on Aunt's chin.

The Bother sighed again. Oh! The long prayer had begun. He liked the long prayer. Everyone leaned forward and made off to go to sleep then, and it was considered very wicked to peek. The Bother didn't close his eyes at all. Mother used to give him his peppermints when the long prayer began. How fortunate that he had remembered the gum. He fished it from out his pocket. It was all covered with fuzz and old cracker crumbs as old pieces of gum are likely to be that are kept in little boys' pockets, but he didn't mind that. The crumbs soon chewed away. How good it tasted! He divided it into two pieces, and chewed on both sides, then pressed it all together on the roof of his mouth and made it as flat and big as a silver dollar. Jiminy! but gum was a good thing to have in church. He took the gum out at last. He would make a ball of it. He licked his hands first, so the gum wouldn't stick to them, just as the cook buttered the cake pan. Then 'round and 'round he rolled it, stopping now and again to survey his pottery. But again he had forgotten Aunt. Quick as a flash she snatched away the little ball enclosing it tightly in a white-gloved hand. At first the Bother had a good mind to cry. But he thought better of it. Instead he leaned his head back and stared up at the high rafters, and, whispering a whistle to himself, imagined himself up there among them, performing acrobatic feats. Aunt nudged him with a sharp elbow. After the prayer, for no apparent reason at all, she looked at him, and scowled, and shook her head. And then—*then* she opened her hand! O, what a mess! The Bother snickered. He could have told her that the gum would stick. Aunt very solemnly and quietly took off her glove. Aunt was so aggravating. She always got out of a scrape gracefully.

What was there left for the Bother

to do now? He swung his stout little boots, until Aunt looked at him, and shook her head again, then he rested them on the rack in front, and began poking the big black singing book. He poked and poked and poked. At last it fell with a heavy bang to the floor. How Aunt jumped! The Bother giggled, then leaned forward to pick the book up. Aunt grasped hold of his trousers behind so that he would not fall, and he stretched and pulled for the book. It felt good to hang forward that way. It made his head prickle delightfully. It felt the way ginger-ale tasted. It sort of put his head to sleep. It made his stomach feel good too. But he should have known that it would not be like Aunt to hold onto him long. Very quietly she let go of the trousers, and bang went the Bother's head upon the floor. He'd cry now anyhow! He didn't care if the minister was talking. Aunt was about the cruellest oman he ever knew. "Fernald, hush," he could hear her say in his ear.

Aunt seized his hand and dragged him into the aisle. He curled his free arm up over his red little face and trudged on behind. Aunt sat him down in the vestibule. "I never was s ashamed in my life," she said. "You're a naughty boy. I'm going to send you straight h me. You're a naughty, naughty boy."

"I want to go home," sobbed the Bother.

"Don't be saucy," said Aunt.

"I'm not saucy. I want to go home."

"Chewing gum in church!" she went on. "To punish you for that, you are to take this," she passed him her glove, "and chew the gum there till two this afternoon—steadily, no stopping—understand. Now go straight home and do as I have told you." She put on his hat and opened the heavy door. "You ought to be ashamed to be sent home in disgrace," she added.

How warm and bright the sunshine was. How cool the breeze on his hot cheeks. How beautiful the flowers

and birds. And oh! how delightful to have gotten back the gum. What a streak of luck that was. He crammed his hands into his pockets, and the gum, after scraping it off the glove, into his mouth, and gaily trudged along. Hurrah! There was an ice-cart. The Bother wondered what sort of a combination ice and gum would make. He would see. He ran into the street, hopped gaily onto the back step of the ice-cart, and fished around inside for a piece of ice. Gum ice-cream was good. The ice-man was good too. He let Bother remain on the step.

When the Bother got home at last he found Uncle sitting on the porch, reading the paper.

"You are all wet, old Chap," Uncle said casually. "Better get dry before Aunt gets home." And he sat the Bother down before the kitchen stove and went out into the yard. The Bother was still jubilantly chewing gum when Aunt came in after Sunday-School. She was very silent, and her lips were pressed very tight. At just two she said, "You may give me the gum, Fernald."

"I don't want it. I like it," the Bother sputtered.

"Give it to me," Aunt thundered.

"I'll give it to you, when you give me the bargain you promised me, if I went to—"

"The bargain, Fernald, was that you should chew the gum until two. It is two. Give it to me."

What a strange thing was that? Aunt said that the bargain was that he should chew the gum. Where did the present come in that Aunt bought at the store? Why, he had bought the gum himself, and how could Aunt give him a present that was his in the beginning?

"Give it to me," Aunt was commanding.

"Was the gum the bargain?" faltered the Bother.

"Give it to me," and he passed it over.

What a disappointment. To have gone to church for a piece of gum that was his in the beginning. His under

lip began to tremble. What a delusion it all was. He had expected a velocipede. Aunt walked over to the fireplace with the gum.

"Stop! Stop!" he cried, "don't burn it." But she pressed her lips together, and cast the gum into the coals.

Alas! Alas! What a strange world it was. What right had Aunt to throw away the gum, his gum, twice earned? A great tear rolled down his cheek. He couldn't understand anything.

Uncle, dear bald-headed Uncle, suddenly appeared, and swung the Bother high up on his shoulder. The sob rising in the Bother's throat came out a laugh.

"Poor old Chap," Uncle said, and took him out into the garden. "There, I've rigged up a swing this morning for you in the apple-tree. That's because you went to church like such a soldier."

The Bother caught his breath.

"Jiminy, the bargain!" he said and made for the apple-tree. All clouds of

doubt vanished. At last affairs had righted themselves. The bargain had appeared.

All through the dinner Aunt scolded Uncle for making the swing on Sunday, and for many other things which the Bother didn't understand. The Bother felt very sorry for Uncle. His heart swelled for the dear bald-headed man who was bearing one of Aunt's scoldings for his sake. After dinner the Bother went into the parlor and drew a stick of candy from the back of the sofa where he had buried it as a dog buries a bone. He took it out to Uncle on the porch.

"I am sorry Aunt scolded you. Want half my candy?" he asked bluntly.

Uncle broke off a little piece.

"Thanks, old Chap," he said. "Let's you and I be friends, eh? Is it a bargain?"

"No Uncle," said the Bother, "it's no bargain. I paid full price for that candy. But I'll be friends just the same."

Keep Your Garden Soil Busy All Season

WHERE TWO OR THREE CROPS ARE GROWN, A SPACE 25 X 70 FEET WILL PRODUCE ENOUGH VEGETABLES FOR A SMALL FAMILY

Even the smallest back yard may be made to yield a supply of fresh vegetables for the family table at but slight expense if two or three crops are successively grown to keep the area occupied all the time, according to the garden specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. People who would discharge a clerk if he did not work the year round will often cultivate a garden at no little trouble and expense and then allow the soil to lie idle from the time the first crop matures until the end of the season. Where a two or three crop system is used in connection with vegetables adapted to small areas, a space no larger than 25 by 70 feet will produce enough fresh vegetables for a small family. Corn, melons, cucumbers

and potatoes and other crops which require a large area should not be grown in a garden of this size. Half an acre properly cultivated with a careful crop rotation may easily produce \$100 worth of various garden crops in a year.

WHEN TO WORK SOIL

If the garden was not broken in the fall it should be plowed in the spring as soon as the frost is out of the ground. Small areas may be worked with a spade, pushing the blade in to its full depth and turning the soil to break up the clods. Heavy soils should never be worked when wet. Overzealous gardeners, ready to seize the first warm spell as a favorable opportunity to go out and work the heavy clay soil before it is dry, are not only wasting their energy, but are doing a damage to the soil from which it will take years for it to recover. To

determine when heavy soils are ready for plowing a handful of earth should be collected from the surface and the fingers tightly closed on it. If the ball of compacted earth is dry enough for cultivation, it will fall apart when the hand is opened.

A garden spot near the house is often more desirable than a plot which is in better tilth but located at an inconvenient distance. A garden which is near the house will receive many a spare hour of care from adults and children which would otherwise be wasted. Where there is ample room for the selection of a garden site, the slope of the land should be carefully considered. A gentle slope towards the south is most desirable for growing early crops, while it is a decided advantage to have the plot protected on the north and northwest by either a hill, a group of buildings, or a board fence.

Drainage of the garden is of great importance. The land should have sufficient fall to drain off surplus water during heavy rains and yet not be so steep that the soil will be washed or gullied. The surface should be nearly level so the water will not stand in hollows. Where the natural slope of the land does not provide sufficient natural drainage, ditches may be dug or a tile drain put in. This will prevent waste water from the adjoining land from washing over it. Such water may carry weed and grass seed into the garden, which are later culled out with difficulty.

HOW TO FERTILIZE

The soil in the average back yard is not only lacking in plant food but also has been packed until it is hard and unyielding. To loosen up such soil and make it suitable for garden

produce requires that careful attention be given to its preparation.

After spading the inclosure thoroughly, the upper three inches should be made fine with the use of hoe and rake. Stones and rubbish should be removed and clods of dirt broken. The surface should be made even and as level as possible. It may then be marked off for planting in conformity with the general plan of the garden.

Barnyard or stable manure is the best fertilizer because it furnishes both plant food and humus. An application at the rate of from 20 to 30 tons to the acre of well-rotted manure is very satisfactory. This should be applied after plowing or working with a spade, and distributed evenly over the surface and later worked in with a hoe and rake. On many soils it is advisable to apply commercial fertilizer, especially phosphate, in addition to the manure. An application of 300 to 600 pounds of acid phosphate to the acre is usually sufficient. If additional potash is needed which is often the case with sandy soils, this may be economically supplied in the form of wood ashes. If the wood ashes are unleached they should be distributed over the garden, using 1,000 pounds to the acre. If they have been wet, or leached, 2,000 pounds should be used. An application of 100 pounds to the acre of nitrate of soda may be used in the spring to start the plants before the nitrogen in the manure has become available. It should be borne in mind that commercial fertilizers will not yield good results unless the soil is well supplied with humus. Sod or other vegetation which has overgrown a garden spot may be used to advantage. It should be turned under with a plow or a spade and will aid in lightening the soil and providing humus.

Program for Parent-Teacher Associations for April

The Programs given from month to month require the service of three members of the association for each meeting. They develop home talent, at the same time providing papers of educational value in child-nurture. They ensure a high standard for the season's meetings, and awaken wider interest in child-welfare as the members learn of the movement throughout the world.

FIRST TOPIC (To be read by one member).

CAPTIVATING COURTESY.

THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.

SECOND TOPIC (To be assigned to another member).

WHAT OTHER PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS ARE DOING. See STATE NEWS.

THIRD TOPIC (To be assigned to third member).

CURRENT NEWS OF WORK FOR CHILD-WELFARE, gleaned from all sources, both local and international.

LOAN PAPERS ON CHILD-NURTURE

Send for the printed list of Loan Papers on Child Nurture and Child Welfare prepared especially for program use. The list will be sent free, provided stamp is enclosed. The papers are type-written. Twelve may be selected and kept for the season at a cost of \$2.00.

They have been written by specialists to meet the needs of parents in dealing with problems of child life at different stages of its development. Single papers will be sent for twenty-five cents and may be kept three weeks. Many new papers have been added to the list.

The Report of Third International Congress on Child-Welfare contains a wealth of material for use in Parent-Teacher Associations. Price \$1.00 to Parent-Teacher Associations. Send orders to National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, 910 Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

BOOKS FOR PARENTS

A list of 25 books suitable for use of parents will be sent to those who desire it. A Circle of 25 members can have a valuable circulating library if each member can buy just one book, or these books may often be secured from the Library.

Work for Child Welfare by Parents and Teachers in National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations

STATE NEWS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

News items from the States must be in the hands of the editorial board by the tenth of the previous month to ensure their appearance in the next magazine. The editorial board earnestly asks attention to the necessity of complying with this rule.

The magazine invites wider correspondence with local circles and associations. Send us reports of what you are doing. It will be helpful to others.

The necessity for brevity will be realized, as space is limited and every month more states send news. News is WORK DONE, OR NEW WORK PLANNED. Communications must be written with ink or typewritten.

ALABAMA

ANNUAL MEETING IN BIRMINGHAM

The Birmingham Council of Mothers' Clubs held a meeting in February, when the various clubs were requested to observe Child-Welfare Day and make an offering to the Endowment Fund. Baby Week, it was decided, also, should be observed.

Mrs. T. A. Burbidge, President, has about completed plans for the annual meeting for March 29 and 30.

SEVERAL CLUBS CONTRIBUTE TO ENDOWMENT FUND

Among the clubs sending donations to the State Congress for the Endowment Fund are:

Montgomery	\$5.50
Greenville	1.40
Elba	1.00

MOTHERS' CIRCLE OF MONTGOMERY

The Mothers' Circle of Montgomery has many things to chronicle concerning its February meetings, and the chairman of the Press and Publicity Committee is glad to give that record to the readers of our CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE.

Unusual activity, interest and enthusiasm has manifested itself in our members and both meetings were splendidly attended, as all usually are, which is evidence of a thriving organization.

The Circle gave a "kitchen shower" for the domestic science department of the West End School and a wagonload of kitchen utensils and dishes, all new articles, were sent to the school, so that this long-needed department would be fully equipped to begin and carry on the splendid work of teaching the children of that district the essentials of practical cooking. The members are also helping to support the "Penny Luncheons" for the school

children of North Montgomery, a most worthy work undertaken by the teachers of that school, and assisted by public-spirited mothers and club women. These lunches cost two cents and are sold for one cent, the deficit being made up by the contributors.

On February 3 Mrs. W. Black was the gracious hostess to the Circle and a fine paper on "The Problem of Punishment" was given by Mrs. B. C. Ehrenreich, after which an open discussion was entered into by the members.

Mrs. M. K. Layton and Mrs. Fitzgerald Salter next entertained the Circle as joint hostesses and a valuable paper was read by Mrs. W. Jerome Chambers on "Twilight Sleep." This was gone into with much detail, and views of our doctors, at home and abroad, were given, as well as those of mothers, who had taken the treatment, and our members were imbued with the thought that this wonder treatment should be given more thought and practice by our American physicians.

The Mothers' Circle has rightly "mothered" or sponsored our "Baby Week" here, beginning March 2 and continuing on through the next week.

The officers of the City Federation, as well as a member of every woman's club in the city joined with our president, Mrs. W. P. Hodges, and the president of our State Congress of Mothers, Mrs. B. F. Hardeman, in planning a real live Baby Week, with the result that a mass meeting was held on the night of March 2 at the Sidney Lanier High School with the wife of our governor, Mrs. Chas. Henderson, a woman of broad culture, and Ex-President of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, presiding. Two of our leading physicians, Dr. D. H. Dawson, a baby specialist, gave an exhaustive paper on "What the City owes its Babies," and Dr. Brannon Hubbard talked on "Community Nursing."

Montgomery's best musical talent added to the program. This meeting was followed by one daily in the different schools of our city, carrying the message far and wide that the baby is the community's best asset, and asking for it the simplest of the world's commodities, better air, better fare, and better care.

The Circle is anticipating with pleasure the arrival of Mrs. Frederick Schoff, president of the National Congress of Mothers, and her party, who will be in our city on March 27, and plans are being made for their entertainment; an auto ride, luncheon, followed by a reception will be given during the day and at night a monster mass meeting at the Sidney Lanier High School, where Mrs. Schoff will be the principal speaker. On March 29 the party will attend the State Congress in Birmingham, and Mrs. Hardeman, state president, will preside. Mrs. W. Jerome Chambers and Mrs. M. G. Ledyard were elected delegates. This Congress promises to be of much interest to our State Clubs and many members will attend.

CALIFORNIA

GLENDALE

A very pleasing and profitable meeting of the Glendale Federation of the Parent-Teacher associations was held in the auditorium of the Intermediate school. Mrs. C. E. Richey, president of the 1st district, gave an address upon the national work. The members were then invited to the library, where they were greeted with a bowl of delicious punch and a birthday cake, radiant with nineteen candles in celebration of the nineteenth birthday of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. A birthday box was in evidence and a neat sum realized to further this splendid work.

SAN FRANCISCO

Through an appropriation made by the dental clinic department of the San Francisco Congress of Mothers, a dental chair will be installed at the Visitacion Valley School, being the second chair that has been provided by the Mothers' Congress.

Dr. Guy Millberry, dean of the dental college at the University of California, demonstrated that relief given children who are suffering from dental neglect would facilitate a more regular attendance in the city schools. This alone, the doctor said, would repay the expenditure for clinics through the increased allotment of school funds which could be obtained on the basis of a larger attendance.

The McKinley School Mothers' Club con-

tributed \$55 to the dental clinic fund as a result of a recent entertainment given for this purpose.

SANTA CRUZ

When the new school house was built no provision was made for an auditorium, but the old school, a one-room building, was left. The trustees gave the Parent-Teacher Association the use of it. We put in electric lights, built on a kitchen, provided an oil stove, dishes, etc.; had benches made and a stage put in the main room; also had it kalsomined. Bought a piano for use in the hall—the school already had one—bought baseball outfit for the boys, made sand bins and had them filled. Got pipe for irrigating lawn and gardens, which are to be finished as soon as the weather will permit.

We have two meetings a month, one in the afternoon, at which most of the business is attended to, and at which we have had a very interesting number of papers on hygiene prepared and read by different members. This course we are just finishing and are planning to take up home economics next. The other meeting is in the evening and is for the most part social. At the afternoon meetings two ladies act as hostesses and serve simple refreshments, only two articles being allowed. We usually serve refreshments at the evening meetings, all bringing something at this time.

The social meetings seem to fill a long-felt want in the community and are well attended.

SAN DIEGO

The progress of the San Diego branch of the Congress has been wonderful this year.

A Fair showing work done by children in their leisure hours was given at the Exposition in connection with Parent-Teacher Association Day in November.

A Juvenile Pageant was successfully managed while the Liberty Bell was here and during a large teachers' convention which brought that day 12,000 people to the grounds.

A splendid reception was given by the Parent-Teacher Associations to the San Diego Board of Education in February.

The baby centers to help mothers have been conducted by the Congress with much satisfaction to mothers.

COLORADO

The report of Mrs. Ducey shows the remarkable progress of the Mothers' Congress work in Pueblo. "In the beginning," she says, "the obstacles were legion; but a few honored and energetic mothers, led by our honored president, forcefully preached their noble doctrine until now the Mothers' Con-

gress or United Motherhood commands respect, coöperation and solicitation whenever mentioned."

A great factor for good has been the establishment of regular press columns, and the state seeing its great value has since adopted this plan. Our newspapers are ever anxious to reserve space for the Mothers' Congress news, realizing the vast numbers who eagerly read its columns. We all feel justly proud of its far-reaching influence and fail of appreciation of our capable press chairman.

Detailed accounts of Mothers' Congress accomplishments would fill a large and interesting book, but here time will only permit enumerating some plain honest facts.

Doubtless the greatest source of personal benefit to the mothers is the uniform monthly topics, causing as it does the entire city to be thinking and studying similar vital questions, usually presented by one experienced in that subject, and in this connection we must class the community evening meetings, which give opportunities for the fathers to be present and take active part.

The Mothers' Congress has secured the personal interest of the school boards. Purchase of school play grounds costing \$30,000. Installation of moving picture machines in the high schools, censorship of moving pictures by hundreds of requests sent to film dramatizers to eliminate the sensuous pictures, lively interest aroused for vocational training, advocated especially by Supt. Slutz.

Successful "Rally day," clearing over \$200. Interest in practical hygiene and the payment of \$300 prizes in a Better Babies contest, now adopted by our State Fair association.

Public opinion awakened to sanitation and a stringent ordinance passed for fumigation of tuberculous patients' apartments, screening and curtaining of school windows, screens made by Sloyd pupils, better chaperonage for our girls, simplicity and economy in dress for graduation—pupils making their own dresses; children's straight "half-fare" rates from traction company, *Mothers' Magazine* sent into 1,000 homes yearly, \$4,000 for the payment of trained supervisors and expense of providing summer playgrounds, the responsibility of which has now been assumed by our city commissioners, who have appropriated \$1,000 for its maintenance, the purchase of various playground equipment for the different school grounds, Victrolas secured in different schools, school libraries provided, an exceptionally creditable one at the Fountain school; one district is supporting a settlement house, others day nurseries and kindergartens, a gift of \$25 sent to our National Association at Washington, D. C., as an incentive for increased membership but also to inculcate

loyalty to our state and nation; nineteen beautiful Colorado flags have been presented to our schools, Parent-Teacher Association formed in the nearby town. Still the half is not told.

Many big problems of civic improvement to make our city conducive to the highest development of our children are now receiving serious consideration.

All the schools in Pueblo are well organized, if we may depend upon the reports in local papers. Their monthly meetings show most valuable conferences on subjects vital to the home. At the Fountain School one mother called attention to the fact that many of the young girls of our foreign population marry at an extremely early age, even so young as thirteen years of age. The society voiced a vote of keen disapproval against such a practice, and urged the coöperation of each and every mother in arousing a sentiment which in time would lead to the enactment of a law to prohibit such early marriages.

A most helpful and inspiring address was given by Mr. I. F. Keating on "Developing Self-Control in the Child."

The same subject engaged the attention of the mothers at the Hinsdale School. Mrs. Wells said: How can we secure self-control in our children? By exemplifying that virtue ourselves. We must pay the price. We cannot lose our temper when commanding them and expect them to keep theirs. We compel the child to do things because we are the stronger. We think it is a dreadful thing for the child to disobey, we become angry, stamp our foot perhaps, and the child—is he helped by our actions of self-control? Can we expect our children to exemplify that virtue when we ourselves fail? We must be fair with a child, although we may not know it. The child has a great respect for fairness, right and justice. Above every other virtue, let us be what we want our children to be.

The Columbia School discussed the topic "Literature for Children." Professor Keating welcomed a community meeting at the Central High School. He said this coöperation and get-together spirit had long been the need of our public schools and it was a source of satisfaction and appreciation to the teachers to know this coöperation of home and school was becoming a fact and meant a better understanding and bigger results in the education for the children of today.

COÖPERATION ON INFANT HYGIENE

The child is here through no choice of his own. His health, vigor, power, of resistance, happiness, and usefulness as a citizen are determined in no small degree by the nature of his care during the early years of his life, and

he is therefore entitled to our highest consideration and utmost care.

The most important factor in the development of the child's health and strength is proper nutrition. Next in importance to food, are fresh air, cleanliness, cheerful surroundings, and healthful play.

It was with the idea that the mothers of the various circles might be induced to interest themselves more actively in the proper care of the child that this department of hygiene was inaugurated, and it is indeed most gratifying to relate that this new feature has met with such hearty approval and coöperation, having since its inception spread its humble endeavors and benefits to about one hundred children.

It might be well to state that there is no attempt on the part of this department to carry on a Baby Show or Contest—but merely to point out any deficiency that may be apparent in the general makeup, care, nourishment or physical well being of the child—advising the parent in each instance to consult the family physician.

It is hoped that the mothers will continue to lend their every assistance to make this department of even greater usefulness in promoting the welfare of the child and thus that of the community.

The result of a Benefit, given at one of the theaters in Denver, netted the State Congress over \$300, which will enable it to do some of the work that it has been longing to accomplish. Mrs. Dick, our President, made a strong plea in our recently-issued Bulletin for dues of 25 cents per capita instead of ten cents. Several newly-formed Parent-Teacher Associations have adopted the suggestion and are using the new method. The ten-cent rate of membership cripples the work of both local and state associations and makes national dues a hardship, so we feel that a sentiment should be created toward an increase before the next state meeting. The thermometer plan, as advised by the National, is being used. We are, also, waging a campaign for \$3 a year—\$1 for state work, \$1 for district or local, and \$1 for the MAGAZINE.

The State Association is coöperating with the Y. W. C. A. in its investigation of the Servant Problem and hopes to do something next year in preparing school children to meet the question.

In loyalty to our State superintendent, Mrs. Mary C. C. Bradford, who has always been the friend and supporter of our work, we are endorsing her excellent plan for standardizing rural schools. We respectfully beg to recommend her methods to our sister states, which have not already adopted it. One of the special requirements in standardizing the

school is that it should organize and foster Parent-Teacher Associations. The entire plan is one to inspire the pride and ambition of rural school districts, and to urge them on to higher things.

PUEBLO DISTRICT

Pueblo reports that seventeen schools out of twenty have Savings Accounts instituted by the Congress. Excellently attended meetings and instructive addresses on the monthly topic—"Developing Self-Control"—have been held in several schools. The reading circles, too, are successful.

"TEACHERS' DAY"

"Teachers' Day," originated by the Pueblo District, will be celebrated in many associations. The Monte Vista and Denver circles will observe it. We hope it may appeal to other states, and that it will be adopted nationally, for, surely, "the teacher is the man whom the parent delighteth to honor."

BABY WEEK

Baby Week also met with a hearty response, even in some of the remote districts. The Denver Congress celebrated it extensively—in coöperation with the Woman's Club, Professional Woman's League, and the Visiting Nurses' Association. Milk stations, with certified milk, at a penny a glass, are about to be established by the Denver district.

MONTE VISTA

Monte Vista district is growing and thriving. Splendid reports show an active interest in all the organized schools.

LA JARA

Report from La Jara reads: "The enthusiasm and development along vital lines has been a source of the deepest satisfaction to those concerned in community interests. A committee for boys, and one for girls, have for their respective duties the investigation of the needs—physical, mental, and moral—of boys and girls, and the furnishing of proper stimuli for the making of future citizens, and strong men and women." They are, already, raising money for playground equipment.

WELDONA

Weldona passed resolutions to the effect that the Association give its support and aid in the organization of a social annex, which will have for its object, first, "the training and entertainment of all who care for its line of activities; second, the providing of available material for home-talent plays and

entertainment; third, the raising of funds by producing a series of plays, etc., for the benefit of the school."

LOUISVILLE

The moving picture question is being investigated with the idea of securing better films for the benefit of the young people.

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut is as usual alive to the needs of the children of the state and nation.

The plans for the Annual Convention in New Britain, April 27 and 28, in the high school auditorium were completed at March Executive Meeting in New Haven. New Britain, one of the most progressive cities in the state, will do its full share to make this annual a helpful and inspiring occasion.

The Program Committee, with Mrs. W. H. Goddard as chairman, is sparing no work to make the program full of interest to the delegates and all interested members and friends.

The Stratford Child-Welfare Club organized a year ago by Mrs. E. J. Naramore has taken up the following subjects at its regular meetings: Playgrounds, School Gardens, The Story of Life and How to Tell It to Children, Dental Inspection, Child Labor Laws, The Proper Feeding of Children.

Special Meetings were devoted to Physical Welfare of Children. A tea was given at the President's home for the purpose of raising money to supply paper towels for the Centre School, in the hope that the School Board may find it expedient to continue to do so.

In September a most successful flower exhibit was held at the school house and twenty prizes awarded, besides giving a tulip bulb to every child who exhibited.

In November a reception was tendered the teachers of all the schools by the Club and held at the home of Mrs. Charles Snyder. It proved to be the means not only of introducing the teachers to the parents but teachers to teachers and has, I think, been productive of much good.

In December the Club gave a Child Welfare Exhibit at the Center School. Besides some local panels, there were borrowed exhibits from the Consumer's League, from the National Child Labor Bureau with lantern slides, from the State Board of Health, on Infant Mortality, on Prohibition, a City Planning Exhibit, School Chart and a Red Cross Exhibit. The Charitable Association of Stratford sold Red Cross stamps, the proceeds to go towards a Visiting Nurse fund. Literature on the following subjects was handed out to those who attended: Care of the Baby, School Lunches, The Fly, Sex Hygiene,

Municipal Clinics for School Children, Schedule for Feeding Children of Different Ages, Red Cross leaflets and approximately five hundred pamphlets on "The Child," published by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. The Exhibit was open two days and added entertainment provided in the way of a tooth-brush drill by some of the children under the supervision of a dental nurse. Another circle, organized about the same time at Stratford—a smaller town—shows the value of Parent-Teacher organizations in the rural districts. Mrs. F. S. Peet, president of the Kent association, reports:

A prize was offered to the school doing the best work in studies, sewing, raising vegetables and making bird houses. There was so little difference that we expect to give prizes to both schools. Even the boys showed beautiful samples of darning, which, if continued, will bring joy to their mothers' hearts.

The sum of twelve dollars was realized with which good magazines will have been placed in the schools, also several circulated through the families of the districts. Swings and merry-go-rounds will be installed.

The Association will give flower and vegetable seeds to the children this spring.

West Haven Mothers' Club, the first to join the State Congress, is doing real community uplift work. A Visiting Nurse has been employed and has been a real help, in homes where there is illness. Many friends of the organization have aided in this work. The writer believes that, from the interest created, at the time of the Annual Meeting in West Haven last April, of the Connecticut Congress of Mothers for Child Welfare, many good results have come. Other clubs wishing "honorary" mention in the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE must send written reports to the Press chairman, Mrs. B. L. Mott, who will be more than willing to rewrite it for publication. Connecticut needs this work for the children and for the homes. May we all have a share.

DELAWARE

The annual conference of the Delaware Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was held at Harrington in February. Mrs. Geo. W. Marshall says: "Delaware has awakened as never before to the possibilities of this organization." It is due to this faithful able service of Mrs. Marshall that Delaware today has the coöperation of the Department of Public Instruction and every teacher in the work.

Through press of other duties Mrs. Marshall declined to serve longer as president.

The following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Garrett Harrington, Harrington, Del.

Vice Presidents, Mrs. Geo. W. Marshall, Milford; Mrs. O. V. Woolten, Laurel; Mrs. John Cleaver, Middletown.

Recording Secretary, Mrs. James Aron, Dover.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jones, Harrington.

Treasurer, Mrs. Thomas Carpenter Lewes.

Auditor, Mrs. Wm. Orr, Lewes.

Mrs. Harrington's heart is in the work, and there is no doubt she will make an excellent president, having the hearty coöperation of the retiring president.

ILLINOIS

BLOOMINGTON

In connection with the McLean County School Officers Association the McLean County Parent-Teacher Council held a Conference February 18. Delegates from twelve schools reported splendid work on lines of school beautifying, playgrounds, community betterment, and best of all, improved relation between the home and the school. Addresses were given by State Superintendent Blair and Dr. Hieronymous, of the University of Illinois, both of them praising the motives and works of the Parent-Teacher Associations. Superintendent Blair recommended that Parent-Teacher Associations agitate in their communities the subject of standardized schools, for no other agency can do so much in forming public opinion along educational lines.

CHICAGO

At a Conference in the Morse School February 29 the delegates' reports were very encouraging in the movement for Better Films. The Managers are showing an increased respect for the power that is manifested by the great aggregation of parents in coöperation with the teachers, and each month shows a larger number of those who are acceding to the demands for better shows for children. So important does this question appear to the Illinois Congress that they are planning to devote a session at the annual meeting to the subject.

In conjunction with the Woman's City Club and the Chicago Woman's Medical Association the Illinois Branch of the Congress is preparing to celebrate Baby Week with all day sessions of conference, consultation and lectures, ending with an exhibit of babies and demonstration of methods. This is under the direction of the State Child Hygiene Chairman, Dr. A. Lindsay, Wynekoop. One of the speakers of the week will be our National

Chairman of Child Hygiene, Mrs. T. Marion Barker, of Waukegan. Baby Week is being observed by the Fourth Ward Parent-Teacher Association of Jacksonville, by the Mothers' Child Study Circle of Byron, the Tuscola Mothers' Club, and by many other associations in conjunction with the Woman's Clubs of their communities. As our National President, Mrs. Schoff, says, "every week is Baby Week with the Congress," but we are glad to coöperate with any movement in the country that will bring about child-welfare.

In a number of our high schools a plan for getting together the mothers has proven so successful that I am going to pass it on for the sake of the officers who find the problem of attendance so much greater in the high school associations than in those of the grade schools. The mothers of freshmen only are invited for a certain afternoon, those of the sophomores for another, of the juniors and seniors for other days. The invitation assures the mothers that only subjects relating to the special class will be discussed, and they are invited to visit the classes in session, before the meeting. In this way the invitation seem more personal and therefore of greater importance. Another thing that draws the parents to the high schools is an evening of "School in Session," when every activity of the institution is open for inspection, with the pupils demonstrating the work, classes, laboratories, workshops, and gymnasium; other pupils act as guides, for to the average parent the high school is a labyrinth, full of pitfalls for the aged and unaccustomed.

Final arrangements are being made for the annual meeting in Cairo, from the eleventh to the thirteenth of April, inclusive. It has been set forward one month in order to connect with the national meeting at Nashville; it is urged that every association send at least its president to one or both of the meetings, and as many delegates as possible. Illinois extends the most cordial invitation to all the States to join them in Cairo, following directly the Nashville meeting.

IMPORTANT PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT— ANNUAL MEETINGS 1916

Illinois Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, Cairo, Ill., April 11 to 13.

Plan to attend these meetings and get the needed inspiration for your work and a broader view of the general movement throughout the country. This is the first time that State Members have been able to attend a national meeting at such slight additional expense. *Plan, if possible, at the next meeting of your association to pay the expenses of your President as a Delegate.*

Expense of Trip

Cairo: Round trip ticket Chicago to Cairo, Illinois Central, \$14.56. Berth, \$2.25.

Nashville and Cairo: Railroad fare Chicago to Nashville, C. & E. I.—ten-ride ticket for party of ten going on same train—\$9.30 each. Single tickets, \$10.76. Berth, \$2.50.

Return: Nashville to Chicago by way of Cairo—N., C. & St. L. and I. C.—\$11.38.

In Cairo all members are provided with room and breakfast without expense. In Nashville delegates will pay their own expenses.

MRS. B. F. LANGWORTHY, *President.*

MRS. GEORGE W. EGGERS, *Chairman General Arrangements*, 428 Normal Parkway, Chicago.

MRS. C. M. CARTWRIGHT, *Chairman Transportation*, Evanston, Illinois.

CHILD-WELFARE ASSOCIATION IN HENRY

The Child Welfare Association meeting was well attended at the Opera House Sunday afternoon by both men and women. Professor King was chairman of the program and Henry Jacobs presided. The assembly met to give a clear idea to those interested in Child Welfare, its object, activities, possibilities and achievements, and to give such persons an opportunity of uniting with this local organization.

Miss Ryan also spoke of the response of the field to the work. She said it was unique in the history of her work in this field of endeavor, and she said there was already a heavy sustaining membership, which not only enabled them to unite with the national organization which gave them access to Washington, D.C., to the world's best knowledge on how to raise children for a postage stamp through the local secretary. The work, that will be undertaken for the ensuing year, will be along the lines of civic activities and child nurture according to the need and response of the local conditions.

The address given by Miss Ryan on "The Motherhood of the Nation," not only elucidated her subject in outline and detail, but she handled it in a masterly, persuasive manner and held her audience spell-bound from beginning to end. Following is an excerpt from her address:

"A mother's work is never done, nor does her influence ever end. Memories of a good mother are among the strongest incentives of upright living. It only remains to fit the mother—every mother—for her responsibility by making her acquainted with the practices of other mothers. This is the task the National Congress of Mothers has set itself to perform.

"The foundation of our commonwealth is the proper bringing up of the child. Every age is very largely a reflection of the mothers of the preceding generation. Consider what that means. It places motherhood at the very apex of service of the state. And what has the state done to make women better able to perform this service? Less than nothing, for it lists mothers 'without an occupation.' Instead of being trained for their high vocation, they have been left to learn it for themselves. This they are now beginning to do in a scientific way, through the National Congress of Mothers, which make the invaluable experience of one mother available for all mothers, and puts the lore of the learned in language that the humblest mother can understand. The congress' work is quiet but far-reaching. Wherever it goes the death rate of children drops. More than a million mothers will be brought under its influence this year. May we not hope, and expect, that some day this bond of sympathy, this effort to make the most of motherhood, will unite the mothers of all the world."

INDIANA

Greek mythology teaches that the world was upheld by a mighty giant! Our National Congress of Mothers teaches us that it is not the giant, Atlas, who upholds the heavy earth toward heaven—but woman, who bears the human world on her bosom, and in her arms to God. This thought is the basis of that spirit of fraternity, and unity of purpose among child-welfare workers which gives us boldness to report, and exchange methods of small fields as well as those of great extent. The sheaf I lay upon the table of our CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE is gathered from a small field—it may not even be fully matured, but if it contains a few ripened grains of helpfulness to other organizations it has fulfilled its mission.

The Lafayette district in charge of Mrs. Crouse, vice-president, is composed of nine counties adjoining each other. It was organized in 1913 irrespective of Congressional division, hence was named for the largest city in the district. Recently the State has reapportioned the territory—calling it the Tenth District, according to political divisions—which takes from this field five counties in which Mrs. Crouse had established flourishing organizations, and gives four new ones far from the center of her efforts. Hence the following report includes only the work of the old field, year ending May, 1916.

The reports from the several counties reflect the spirit of service throughout this district. There has been given special con-

sideration of home and school conditions, sanitary and moral. There has been coöperation with health boards in educating people as to the conservation of infant life. Briefly, we stand for the best in the communities in which we are organized. To be more specific, I will quote from a few of the reports sent to me.

The Idaville Child Welfare Club, in White County, thwarted in its first attempts to organize under the name of Parent-Teacher Association, because of opposition of teachers, quietly persevered, and formulated new plans. They held a membership contest, and increased their membership more than half. During summer months started a movement for a local public library, which was well received by the community. Rooms were donated for housing the library. Between 200 and 300 books were secured, reading rooms cozily furnished, and hours were established. A story hour, superintended by a cultured woman, was arranged for the children on Saturdays. When autumn came, and the public school opened, the Child-Welfare Club was well established in its plans. Teachers showed enthusiastic appreciation, and gave coöperation in the library plan, and other things the club had undertaken to advance community interests. Much of the success of this association is due to the efficiency of its first president, Mrs. J. H. McCully, and her successor, Mrs. J. H. Downs.

Chalmers Parent-Teacher Association, in the same county, with a membership of 76 earnest workers, was the first organization in this district to be assigned a regular place on the Teachers' Institute programs. Our annual district convention will be held in this hospitable town May, 1916.

West Lafayette, being a university town, its Parent-Teacher Association, numbering over 80 members—had not much difficulty in securing coöperation, with the superintendent and teachers of the public schools, and also many of the college professors. The association is ably led by a professor's wife, Mrs. R. D. Fuller, and has held many special meetings to discuss the State laws as regards their protection to the children of the community, and health laws, as regards medical inspection in the schools, an effort being made with the school board to inaugurate such measure. As the study of agriculture has been introduced into the higher grades, steps were taken to encourage summer gardening for the children. Last autumn, when the schools opened, a day was appointed for an exhibition of their work. Vegetables and flowers were exhibited and scored at one of the schools. Photographs of spring vege-

tables and flowers had been taken and were on the exhibition list. Different cash prizes were awarded by the Parent-Teacher Association. The superintendent of schools added much to the success of this adventure by his personal interest and work. With many good reports, I will allude to but one more. The Parent-Teacher Association of the Centennial School in East Lafayette, or the city proper, has the hearty coöperation and sympathy of its principal, a woman of broad views and keen instincts; and who with her corps of teachers are active members of the association. This organization has done remarkable benevolent work in their school district, clothing many poor children, visiting sick and discouraged, and teaching practical lessons of hygiene, and cleanliness in many homes. Very recently they held a reception in the school building for the school board and patrons, had a pleasant program, and served refreshments. There was a large attendance, for this was a new thing for the board and fathers to be invited to the school to a real social. But there was a sinister motive in the minds of those women! The building situated in the center of a wealthy city was not only unsanitary but condemned as unsafe; therefore the mothers and teachers took this plan to *show* the board and fathers all over the building and make their demands for a better building more impressive than they had been able to do heretofore.

The Federated Mother's circles and Parent-Teacher associations of the city and West Side observed Founder's Day, February 17. Meeting was held at the Jefferson High School, and proved a success in attendance and program. Baby show occurred March 17 and 18 in the same building, under the auspices of State Board of Health, and local committees selected from woman's clubs and other organizations interested in child welfare.

As mother's circles and parent-teacher associations, we have used the daily press to remonstrate against a movement for opening picture theaters in our city on Sunday.

The organization of our district is as follows: Besides the district Chairman, who is appointed by the State, the district Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer, with a President for each county are elected at the annual convention held in the month of May. We have no delegated representation at our annual meetings, the entire membership is invited to attend. The presidents of the clubs constitute a board of managers. This is to assure a full attendance at the two board meetings held in October and March of each year. We had printed this year a list of suggested programs which were sent throughout the district; also a constitution

and by-laws, to guide the organizations new and old.

From our last report we had 32 organizations, and 1,445 members, and have had a few accessions since, and some losses.

Our district is aiming for more intelligent work—a better comprehension of the work of our National Congress of Mothers; and almost unanimously express loyalty to our National, and to our State.

MAINE

The Maine Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations was organized in the high school assembly hall, Waterville, February 10, 1916.

The National Congress of Mothers engaged the valuable services of Mrs. Walter Leroy Smith in December and January to visit many towns in Maine, explaining the work of the Congress.

Mrs. David O. Mean made a generous contribution toward the expenses of this preliminary work.

Mrs. Smith, who was formerly a Maine woman, is an inspiring speaker, and her lectures were received everywhere with great enthusiasm; so that when the call came to organize, there was found to be a charter membership of about fifteen hundred.

Fifty-two delegates were sent to the organization of the State Association from the following cities and towns: Calais, Machias, Fairfield, Richmond, Augusta, Waterville, Winslow, Bath, Wayne, East Livermore, Rumford, Rumford Point, Skowhegan, Norway, Woodland and Corinna. Other towns which have a charter membership in the State and National organizations are Casco, Carmel, Poland, West Poland, Berwick, Lubec, Farmington and Jonesport.

The first Parent-Teacher Association in the state was organized in the city of Calais in 1909. During the next four years, Machias, Woodland, Fairfield, Skowhegan, Richmond, Bath, Wayne and East Livermore formed associations. By investigating, Parent-Teacher Associations in other cities and towns that have not yet become affiliated with the State and National Associations have been found.

Valuable work has been done by the Parent-Teacher Associations: The introduction of manual training and domestic science in the schools; a Clean City Campaign in which the school children as well as the citizens join, and the placing of rubbish cans about the city; Wild Flower and Tree Contests, with prizes offered for the best collections. The Hustlers' Banner has been used in one association to stimulate the attendance

of parents. Pupils were asked to invite parents and friends to the meeting. The guests were asked to stand for the rooms which they represented. The room having the largest number of visitors received a banner on which was printed the word, "Hustlers." The banner was held until the next meeting when a new count was taken. A Vegetable and Flower Exhibit from the House Gardens served to stimulate a taste for gardening in the schools of one town. In May of last year the pupils of the grades were encouraged to cultivate home gardens, using the penny packet seeds of the flower missions. A list was given to the committee and every child's garden was visited at least once during the season, in order to encourage and supervise the work. The children were asked by the teachers to write the story of their gardens, and several of those stories were read in September, when a commendable exhibit of vegetables and flowers was given. The flowers were afterwards taken to the patients of a tuberculosis sanatorium.

For the schools of various cities and towns pianos were purchased; bubbling drinking fountains and electric lights were installed; music was bought for a high school orchestra, besides singing books for younger pupils. United States flags were presented to different schools. One association paid the expenses of a district school convention. Educational moving pictures on Saturday mornings have been instituted in one city, which is a most excellent plan for all cities to adopt. A Children's Department was added to one library. No library is complete without one.

Besides Mrs. Walter Leroy Smith's lecture tour of the state, Hon. Payson Smith, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, has lectured before many Parent-Teacher Associations. Lectures have also been given by local superintendents, doctors, dentists, ministers, business men and professors. The needs and problems of parents and teachers have been discussed. One teacher said she had taught ten years in the same place and had met some of the parents for the first time since the birth of the Parent-Teacher Association. Some of the parents had never been inside the school building, and others had had no personal knowledge of it for twenty years.

To quote from the eloquent address of Mrs. Milton P. Higgins, "The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations embraces everybody—fathers, mothers, children, uncles, aunts, cousins; political and philanthropic organizations, churches, and schools. The power of God working through the personality of man is the salvation of the world. Increase the personality and you

increase the power. She who takes into her heart her own children is a mother; she who takes into her heart those who are not her own children is God's mother. The watchword of our Association is Service, not Credit; Work!"

We who have had the privilege of listening to these national officers feel that they are indeed God's Mothers, endowed with that Christian spirit and zeal which blesses and uplifts humanity.

The State motto for Maine is *Dirigo* (I lead). We take the lead in having the largest charter membership of any state which has previously become affiliated with the National Association. Let us hope that we may lead in the future welfare of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations until every city, village, and rural community in the grand old state of Maine has organized and become linked by ties of friendship and love to the great National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, adopting those same high ideals which make better, nobler and truer men and women.

MISSOURI

Fourth Annual Convention of the Missouri Congress and Parent-Teacher Associations, to be held in Columbia, Missouri, April 25-27, 1916. By Invitation of the Lee, Benton and Grant Parent-Teacher Associations of Columbia. Everybody Welcome. All Meetings Free

Mrs. J. A. Stewart,
Chairman of General Arrangements,
602 West Broadway,
Columbia, Mo.

Mrs. D. O. McGovney,
Chairman of Hospitality,
1321 Keiser Avenue,
Columbia, Mo.

Mrs. Norman Windsor,
Chairman of Transportation,
6131 Etzel Avenue,
St. Louis, Mo.

All Parent-Teacher Associations, Mother Circles—any and all circles interested in the work for child-welfare, whether members of the Congress or not, are urged to send representatives to the Convention.

Only accredited delegates, however, will be entertained in the homes of Columbia people.

ENTERTAINMENT

State officers, delegates or alternates will be entertained in Columbia homes. There were about two hundred accredited delegates in Kansas City last year, and there ought to be

double that number this year, so by special request of the State Board the Columbia hostesses will provide rooms and breakfast only. Luncheon and dinner will be served by different church societies for 35 c. and 50 c. respectively. At the first meeting following this notice, circle presidents are urged to call the attention of the members of their organizations to the necessity of a speedy decision concerned the appointment of delegates and others who are to attend from their circle, so that all entitled may receive entertainment.

After credential cards based upon each circle's paid membership are received from the State treasurer in April, club presidents are urged to have delegates elected promptly and to send *names* and *addresses* of those chosen to Mrs. D. O. McGovney, Chairman of Hospitality, Columbia, Mo.

The Columbia hostesses must be given sufficient time in which to plan for their guests and for this reason no names will be received for entertainment after April 18, 1916.

Dr. A. Ross Hill, President of the University of Missouri, will make the opening address of the convention.

Rev. Dr. Green, of Ravenwood, Missouri, will be invited to talk on "Life in Rural Communities" to be followed by a discussion on Social Centers.

An automobile ride and a reception in one of the University Buildings are part of the charming hospitality extended us by the Columbia people. Columbia is not only the home of our State University but also of two Women's Junior colleges—Stephens and Christian.

One session of the convention will take place at each of these.

The Wabash has been selected as the official route into Columbia from both Kansas City and St. Louis.

Delegates leaving Kansas City will be given one or more special chair cars or coaches on train No. 2, leaving at 10 A.M., and arriving in Columbia at 3:45 P.M.

The St. Louis delegation will be provided with one or more special chair cars or coaches on train No. 3, leaving St. Louis at 9 A.M., arriving at Columbia at 1:45 P.M.

Delegates from other points can choose their most convenient routes.

After the last session of the convention the Wabash will have coaches and sleepers on track, to be attached to proper trains and deliver delegates into Kansas City at 7:30 A.M. and into St. Louis at 7:55 A.M.

RATES

The rate from Kansas City to Columbia is \$3.42 each way or in parties of 10 or more

\$3.25, and from St. Louis \$2.92 each way: From Springfield to Columbia via Clinton (M. K. and T.) \$4.49; Springfield via St. Louis \$7.71; Springfield via Kansas City \$7.25—or in parties of 10 or more \$7.08.

COMMITTEES ON ARRANGEMENTS

Mrs. W. H. Jobe, Chairman of Arrangements for Kansas City.

Mrs. W. A. Blodgett, Chairman of Arrangements for St. Louis.

Mrs. A. L. Yingling, Chairman of Arrangements for Independence.

Mrs. Wm. Rullkoetter, Chairman of Arrangements for Springfield.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Karl Eaton, Springfield, Mrs. J. W. Fifield, Kansas City, Mrs. Bernard O. Hunt, Columbia.

CHILDREN'S HANDICRAFT EXHIBIT AT SPRINGFIELD

Much interest was shown by the school children in preparing for the "Handicraft Exhibit," held the latter part of February.

Specific rules for the contest with awards were published and also posted in the city schools. The exhibition was given under the auspices of the Council of Parent-Teacher Associations, and was held at each school during the week of February 17—Child Welfare Day of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

The central exhibit, which included exhibits from all the schools, was held February 25 and 26 at the high school.

Over 500 people attended the reception at high school February 26, which concluded the ward school exhibit of manual training and domestic science work. Hundreds of people visited the big display during the day, and were highly pleased with the splendid exhibit of handicraft specimens produced in the 17 ward schools of the city, and representing the work of thousands of school children.

The bird houses, 417 in number, attracted much favorable comment for originality of design and many of them were sold at fancy prices.

Chrissi Rieves, of the Berry School eighth grade, found a woodpecker's nest, lined and plastered, in the limb of an old cherry tree. She converted this section into a bird house, making a roof, base and perch for it, and sold it for \$2.00. Two of the most skilfully constructed houses at McDaniel School were made by girls.

Seventeen of the twenty bird houses purchased by the Southern Missouri Trust Co. were given to the city schools. Those pur-

chased by the Springfield club, and Gas and Electric Co. were donated to the city parks. The manual-training class of each school will construct a martin house for the school yard, the poles and concrete bases to be furnished by the Parent-Teacher Associations. This is one of the many good results obtained by the contest.

Blue, red and white ribbons were awarded pupils for first, second and third places. Sweepstake ribbons were also awarded.

First prize for the best display in manual training went to Waddill school and second to Rogers.

In the domestic science department first prize for the best display went to Campbell school and second to Rogers. Mrs. F. O. Small was chairman of the manual-training exhibit, and Mrs. V. O. Coltrane of the sewing.

Springfield Circles have honored Mrs. J. B. McBride by presenting her with a life membership in the state organization.

BOYD SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Boyd School Parent-Teacher Association celebrated Founder's Day at the regular meeting of the club, February 23, when the following program was given: "Shoo-fly," song by the children of the second grade, carrying fly swatters. Song by Boy Scouts in uniform, from fifth, sixth and seventh grades. Address by Mrs. J. B. McBride, state president of the congress; subject: "The Relation of the Individual Club to the State and National Organization"; song by Fireside girls from eighth grade, piano accompaniment by Lois Fleming; singing of "America" by audience, piano accompaniment by Mrs. Josephine Gideon. A social hour was afterward enjoyed by sixty members and guests.

The Boyd School Parent-Teacher Association was the first organization of its kind in the city, and is a charter member of the National Congress. It has a paid membership of 55, and is now in its seventh year of usefulness. The monthly meetings with programs and discussions on child welfare and the betterment of school conditions, interspersed with social meetings, are well attended, and have full coöperation of the entire corps of teachers. The Boyd Parent-Teacher Association has, during the past year, installed a handsome piano in the school building, furnished a rest room for the teachers, realized over \$50.00 from a rummage sale and voted \$5 to the shoe fund for needy school children, aside from its Christmas and Thanksgiving donations. A larger number of community teas have been given by the Boyd school than any other, promoting good

fellowship in the organization. Mrs. William Rullkoetter was the first president of this successful club, and Mrs. J. B. McBride is also a former president. The present officers, all of whom are serving a second term, are Mrs. Harry Patton, president; Mrs. V. O. Coltrane, vice-president; Mrs. Roger Moist, secretary; Mrs. J. R. Bartlett, treasurer.

THE GREENWOOD SCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF SPRINGFIELD

The Greenwood School is a training school in connection with one of Missouri's Normals—hence it is small—each grade being limited to fifteen pupils, and as the State furnishes splendid play grounds, gymnasiums, etc., our problems differ slightly from other circles—those in connection with the public schools for instance.

In June of last year we entertained the faculty, supervisors, and student teachers at a picnic supper on the Normal campus and we hoped by that means to establish the friendliest of relationships at the start.

Before our first meeting in September we sent a letter home by each child, asking the parents, teachers, and everyone interested to join our organization.

Our Council of Parent-Teacher Circles here in Springfield took as its slogan for this year "To reach more people," and out of the discussion which took place in our club grew a membership committee which has done very effective "team work." Ten women—one from every grade in the school—volunteered to be responsible for the mothers in her grade; they met, got complete lists of names, addresses, telephone numbers from teachers, they marked off the mothers who had three or four children attending school so each would only get one call. They promised to go to see their women once during the year if possible, and if not, to vary the programme by writing a note—instead of calling over the phone—at least once. Just before our meeting the chairman calls up the other nine members of the committee telling them of interesting features of the coming meeting, then each one calls up her ten or twelve mothers and asks them to come "for the children's sake" or "to get acquainted with each other," or "as a personal favor," or "to meet and know the children's teachers."

Our dues to the State and National are payable in January, so when the notice was given of the January meeting, each mother was reminded of the fact and the response was surprising. A written report was filed with the secretary—which will prove of the greatest assistance to a president who doesn't know all her women personally, and yet has

to fill out committees and bring into the work as many new women as possible. It reads like this:

First Grade

Mrs. A. has paid dues—attends meetings regularly.

Mrs. B. has young baby—not able to come this year—do not call again.

Mrs. C. not interested—try personal call, etc.

The work of our club is done by eleven standing committees, Programme, Literature, Finance, Social, Child Hygiene, Home Economics, Social Service, House and Grounds, Handicraft, and Nature Study, Membership, and an agent for the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE. These committees are not just a part of the By-Laws, and exist in name only—but have grown out of the needs of the club and do all of the real work, only consulting and reporting to the president.

The chairmen of these committees together with the four officers of the club form our executive board and we meet always once a month, sometimes oftener; and it is the real workshop of the organization. We have had ten "ten-cent teas" in our club,—they are simply social gatherings to get acquainted and talk child-welfare and take place at the homes of the members, each guest paying ten cents. We presented \$5.00 from that fund to the Springfield Council of Parent-Teacher Circles, as the suggestion of giving these "Teas" originated there.

We sent out four hundred and fifty invitations for a "Founders' Day Tea" on February 19, at the home of one of our members, and made a birthday gift to both State and National from the silver offering.

A Child Hygiene Committee has been tireless in its efforts to improve sanitary conditions. The Home Economics department planned for a mothers' class in cooking which the Normal School and the Supervisor in the cooking department very kindly carried out.

Now a word about our "Mothers' Loan Library" in charge of our Literature committee. They found there were ten or twelve women in our club who were perfectly willing to buy one book each, the books to be selected by the committee. The Librarian at the Normal agreed to handle them for us. Of course we sent to the National Congress and to Miss Lathrop for lists of books for mothers, and selected ours as carefully as we knew how. Still I can't help but feel a little disappointed in the outcome. Many of the books I expected to do so much good have remained on the shelves. Irving King's "Education for Social Efficiency," which I hoped would solve almost all our problems, has seemed a little tedious to most of the women. We

have two sets of "Parents and Their Problems," and I find they are *out* a great deal. One or two of our books I don't find on these lists I've consulted, and I'd like to suggest them to others. "The Health Master," by Adams, has been handed around and read a great many times, and because of it, in one of our meetings we discussed keeping children away from school with bad colds, using paper towels and handkerchiefs, calling the children's attention to keeping their fingers, pencils, etc., out of their mouths and away from their noses, etc.

Just before Christmas one mother presented "Widow O'Hallohan's Boys" to the club and advised our giving it to our own boys for Christmas. "Increasing Home Efficiency" by M. B. and H. N. Bruere is another one that we have liked.

PENNY SAVINGS BANK

The Mothers' club of the Fairbanks school, Springfield, has adopted the Penny Savings system among the children of that institution. A collector has been appointed, who receives the deposits every Friday afternoon after school hours. The collections for the first day amounted to \$6.73.

This system employed in many of the larger cities of the country in every case has met with unqualified success, instilling in the minds of the young people principles of thrift and responsibility.

Statistics show that over-indulgence in sweet meats, and cigarette-smoking among the boys, has decreased fully fifty per cent. with the institution of the new system of thrift.

BABY WEEK IN KANSAS CITY

The Mothers' Congress coöperated in the Nation-wide attention which babies received during the week March 6 to 11.

Kansas City schools and Parent-Teacher Associations held extra meetings.

The First Baptist Church has a prize cradle roll, which was organized in January, 1914, by Mrs. J. S. King.

The methods used in this cradle roll which have made it grow are those of the kindergarten. Mrs. King's principle has been to impress religious lessons through the use of materials with which the little people are familiar. She has a sand table, kindergarten blocks and colored cards.

There are now one hundred and fifty babies on this cradle roll which started with eight. A number of the members have been graduated into the primary department of the Sunday-school, but not one of them has ever been lost by death. These babies play all the week with the things the teacher uses for

Sunday-school lessons. Sunday is an eventful day in their little lives, as they always learn something new and wonderful. To take their part in the Baby Week program this cradle roll was responsible for a program Baby Sunday.

The benefit given at the Garden Theater, Kansas City, by the Dubinsky Bros. Stock Co., under the auspices of Council of Parent-Teacher Associations, February 25-6, netted gross receipts of \$1,250.75.

"Polly of the Circus" was the play given.

A Mothers' Congress Rally, in observance of Child Welfare day, was held at the Grand Avenue Temple, February 17. The meeting lasted throughout the day, with Mrs. J. W. Fifield presiding. The program follows:

The Founding of the National Congress of Mothers, Mrs. J. W. Fifield, Whittier School.

Roll Call of Schools. Responses: What We Hope to Do.

"Symposium" Led by I. I. Cammack, Superintendent of Schools, Coöperation of the Parent-Teacher Associations with the Schools.

Address: Training the Children to be Law-abiding Citizens of Both the Individual and National Home, Dr. Burris Jenkins.

Open Forum, Mrs. E. R. Weeks, National Vice-President.

Suggestions for Baby Week, Mrs. A. D. Bradley, City Chairman Hygiene.

Almost one hundred dollars were reported by the Treasurer as having been given during the past year by the Kansas City Council to the State work. A gift of seventy-five dollars, by Mrs. J. H. Barton of Ash Grove, to the State and National work, was also reported by the Treasurer.

CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE

An earnest appeal in behalf of the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE was issued several months ago in the form of a letter to circles state-wide, and we note with pleasure and gratification that Missouri now leads in the race for subscribers. A prize of ten yearly subscriptions to CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE is offered to the State sending in the largest per cent. gain of subscribers (according to its membership), and a prize banner to the state gaining the largest per cent. of increase in membership. Why not work and win?

Show your magazine to others. Subscribe for a friend. Visit in your school district and interest yourself in getting up a club or clubs of five. It is not unprofitable work. You will enjoy it, and often discover individuality where you least suspect its existence.

Only new circles of 50 members are entitled to the MAGAZINE for a year without charge.

Devonshire Mothers' Circle, of St. Louis, recently made up a magazine club of five, and upon receiving CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE for February, an article entitled "The Child and the Muss he Makes" was read to the Circle, whereupon six more subscriptions were immediately sent in, totaling eleven, in a club of thirty members.

ST. LOUIS

Chamberlain Park Circle of St. Louis raised \$25, which was used to install a bubbling fountain at Hamilton and Delmar Avenues.

WEST PLAINS

One hundred parents and teachers attended the January meeting of the West Plains Parent-Teacher Association.

The association is constantly attracting new members among the parents of the city, who are finding the organization a most helpful one. However the large number of teachers in the public schools have contributed largely to the success of the organization through their hearty support and coöperation in every movement, and their willing efforts to effect a mutual and pleasant understanding with the parents in every problem of local school life.

The Benton School Parent-Teacher Association of Columbia has bought a Victrola and cleared \$50 from a picture show.

The Linneus Parent-Teacher Association has expended \$125 for a drinking fountain, and will soon install a filter in the school building.

NEW ORGANIZATIONS JOIN THE CONGRESS

Swinney Parent-Teacher Association, Kansas City; Jackson Parent-Teacher Association, Kansas City; Bryan Parent-Teacher Association, Nevada; Howard Mothers' Circle, St. Louis; Clinton Mothers' Circle, St. Louis; Sullivan Mo. Parent-Teacher Association, Excelsior Springs Parent-Teacher Association, Geo. S. Bryant Parent-Teacher Association, Independence; Ozark, Gillaspay, R. F. D., Columbia, Neosho, Bois D'Arc, and Grace-land Parent-Teacher Association of Kansas City.

MONTANA

In this state of great distances, with towns widely separated, the process of "getting into touch" is somewhat slow, but gradually the state officers are being informed of the work accomplished under the auspices of the Congress and each report brings encouragement. In spite of the comparative isolation of communities, similar lines of thought and effort

are being followed in the places which have recently reported.

Butte Parent-Teacher Associations are heartily coöperating with the Women's Clubs in arranging for two Baby Days. They are working on the problem of securing appropriate films for children at the moving picture theaters, and are giving thoughtful attention to many other practical subjects affecting children.

Great Falls is planning for Baby Week and is concerned with the moving-picture question. The large attendance at "Treasure Island" shown there recently as a result of the sentiment aroused by the women of the city proves that the Montana public will patronize good things if given an opportunity. The circles are also interested in better fire protection in school buildings and good reading for children.

Helena is doing splendid work in its eight organizations. There has been this year a more wholesome coöperation of parents with children in the school work. They too have Baby Week plans and are securing better films at one theater at least. They say: "The films are O.K.'d by a committee representing the Parent-Teacher Circles. The Circles do the advertising, furnish the music and ushers, and the owner of the theater does the rest."

Kalispell Parent-Teacher Associations are making "thrift" one of their practical subjects. The year was started by a successful reception of welcome to the teachers. A greater spirit of harmony has been evident and a better understanding between the home and the school.

Laurel Mothers' Club entertained for the teachers at the beginning of school. At the holidays they helped plan and carry out a Christmas entertainment and treat for the lower grades, among whom were 150 Russian children. The club has helped to make some adjustments between the home and school, and is now coöperating with the commercial club to secure books and a reading room and story hour for children.

Missoula Circles are hard at work arranging for Baby Week—and are also studying "thrift" and the problem of keeping the children happily occupied at home between supper and bedtime.

Whitefish Child-Welfare Circle reports great interest among its members and new ones added at each meeting. The townspeople feel it is the best organization ever formed there.

The foregoing are but a few instances of what is being done in Montana, where our organization is very new and as yet in a rather nebulous condition.

The State Executive Committee held its

second meeting in Butte. Mrs. C. H. Bowman was unanimously elected second Vice-President to fill the existing vacancy. Mrs. Bowman is an enthusiastic worker in this new state movement and will be a valuable asset.

Mrs. H. A. Farnsworth, of Missoula, was appointed chairman of the Press and Publicity Committee. It is the purpose of this committee as expressed by its chairman to keep the topic of Child-Welfare and Parent-Teacher work before the Montana public, through the press of the state. Other committee appointments were carefully considered and will be made soon.

The Butte Parent-Teacher Associations united to secure three lectures by Miss Caroline Crawford, of the Teachers' College, Columbia, on January 24, 25 and 26. Miss Crawford's general topic was the dramatic and play instinct of the child. Each lecture was of great interest both to parents and teachers, and all were well attended. It was very gratifying to the Butte organization to have this first venture such a success.

OPEN HOUSE IN BUTTE SCHOOLS—NIGHT SCHOOL FOR INSTRUCTION OF FOREIGNERS

After long and careful consideration the school trustees of Silver Bow county have decided to open a night school soon after the beginning of the new year for the instruction of foreign-born citizens who are not versed in the English language and have little knowledge of the laws and institutions of this country and for the instruction in the common branches of other adult citizens who had little opportunity in their young days to attend school. It has been the belief of many in the community that a start should have been made in the direction of night schools long ago and the move of the school board will be generally approved. While primarily the public schools are for the education of the young, those who are older and in need of education should be given the opportunity. The scope of usefulness of the schools in many places has been greatly widened by the introduction of night schools.

Progress in other directions is under consideration by the school board. Committees are looking into the matter of the establishment of social centers and the introduction among the school children of a banking system to educate the youth in thrift. These things will be looked into very thoroughly and early action is expected as to the advisability of experimenting in these lines. In a number of places great benefit has resulted from work done on these lines under the direction of the schools and it is believed by many that social centers and a banking system would be of great advantage in Butte.

The biggest thing in the way of a school exhibit has been held by the public schools of Butte. The various school buildings have kept "open house," and the plan has been such that each building has had two days in which to welcome the friends and parents of the schools.

For the first time in the history of the Butte schools the teachers had the opportunity of visiting all of the other buildings. Some of the teachers have never before been inside of some of the buildings and the work in many of the rooms had never been inspected. Throughout the city the school buildings were in holiday decorations.

Everything representing the work of the schools was on display from the regular class work to that of the special departments in manual training, sewing and art. The children made most of the decorations. At several of the buildings the "open house" was accompanied by the serving of tea and a sociable hour. The main idea was to give the parents an opportunity of viewing what has been accomplished by their children up to the present period in the school year.

At the Emerson building the children went visiting in all of the rooms. Certain hours were set aside for various groups to make the rounds of the buildings and in this way every child had the opportunity of visiting every room. This plan met with favor. Children in one grade had the chance to view the work done by their brothers and sisters in other grades. Quite an innovation was the display of original problems in arithmetic, some of the pupils taking for their subjects the getting up of Christmas dinner menus for a certain number of people with the cost computed at the figures prevailing in the Butte markets.

The Grant building had the most beautiful trees. There were three, one on each floor, and a wonderful amount of artistic ability and ingenuity was expended on them. One of the trees looked as if quantities of snow-flakes and crystals had been showered upon it. This effect was produced by white crepe paper cut into narrow strips. Another of the trees all in red made a brilliant scene. The third tree was a combination of colors.

The two days' exhibit and entertaining at each building were very generally attended by the people in the neighborhoods. The children carried the verbal invitations home and the parents were liberal in responsive interest. There was no feature about the whole week that gave more satisfaction than that which admitted of visits by the teachers to all of the buildings in the city.

OHIO

Upper Sandusky, Ohio, has organized a Home and School Association with 170 members. It sent a delegate to the Detroit Conference of National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.

Baby Week will be celebrated. The State News in CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE is helpful, as it gives ideas for other organizations.

Medical inspection of public schools has been secured.

Massillon has just organized a large Parent-Teacher Association in Washington High School. This was done through Mr. L. E. York, one of the Vice-Presidents and also an organizer. He intends to organize in every school in Massillon.

Baby Week was celebrated by the Cleveland members of the Congress. Lectures were given each day by prominent physicians. Patterns for baby clothes were cut and sold. The City Health Department issued engraved birth certificates to all babies born since January 1. Mothers were taken to the various dispensaries to learn of their opportunities for help.

PENNSYLVANIA

The board of managers of the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers met at the Bellevue-Stratford, Philadelphia, the last week of January, with members present from Pittsburgh, Bloomsburg, Coatesville, Chester and Philadelphia. A luncheon preceded the Board meeting, being given by the eight Philadelphia members of the board to Mrs. Geo. K. Johnson and Mrs. E. Q. Fothergill. Chairmen of Departments were elected. Mrs. Geo. K. Johnson accepted the chairmanship of Extension and will continue the valuable organization work this spring with Mrs. Walter Leroy Smith as organizer.

Mrs. Fothergill, the new State President, announced that four of the monthly board meetings would be held in Philadelphia. Others would be held in Pittsburgh or other cities, that all parts of the State may share the responsibility of the State work. Local Associations should send their dues to Miss Florence Dibert, Johnstown, Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Congress of Mothers.

PITTSBURGH

Pittsburgh Child-Welfare Circles gave a tea at Fort Pitt Hotel to celebrate Child-Welfare Day. Over five hundred attended. It was the largest gathering of parents interested in child-welfare that has been held in Pittsburgh. A handsome donation was sent to the National Congress.

PHILADELPHIA

Mrs. William G. Carter, Hon. Vice-President of the National Congress of Mothers, gave a handsome luncheon to Lady Aberdeen on Child-Welfare Day, inviting the national officers and board members who live in Philadelphia, and the officers and members of the State Board with other friends of the Congress. Lady Aberdeen gave a most interesting description of the work she has done for children of Ireland and Scotland. She expressed her deep interest in the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, stating that she had read all the literature, and would like to see a Congress in Great Britain.

She would count it an honor to act as organizer for National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in Great Britain.

GETTYSBURG

Gettysburg Parent-Teacher Association is starting a systematic collection of dues. There is a large membership, and by systematic work a much larger sum would come in than has ever been received before. The use of the membership cards will, it is believed, create a greater interest because of the clearer understanding of the great work of which each member is a part.

RHODE ISLAND

Baby Welfare Activities of the Rhode Island Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations with Suggestions How to Organize a Free Baby Consultation

A little pamphlet has been issued with the hope that it may stimulate Mothers' Clubs or similar groups of women throughout the State to be sponsors for a Free Baby Consultation in their own locality. The work of these Consultations is preventive rather than curative, the prime object being to keep the babies well through properly directed feeding, weighing, and instruction to the mothers.

With so many Consultations being established, it was thought wise to have them all run and administered alike, and, as they could never have existed except for the aid and co-operation of many people and agencies, it was thought best to form a representative committee of all the interested agencies. So in October, 1913, representatives from the seven organizations interested and all the physicians in charge of Consultations met and formally organized the Baby Welfare Committee of Providence, this committee to have charge of all the Free Consultations for Babies in Providence. Dr. Henry W. Burnett is chairman of this committee and in the three years of its

existence a very definite method of procedure has been worked out for the carrying on of the Consultations. This definite policy was necessary in order that there should be no friction between the work of a Consultation and local doctors.

The Congress owns a "Better Babies" reel, which has been shown several times before large audiences, and which it will be glad to lend at any time. A poster on prenatal care also will be available after Baby Week Campaign.

At our earnest request the State Health Department has had printed a leaflet on baby care, and it is free for all within the State who desire it.

The City Health Department has been most liberal in its contribution of literature for the city, and has sold to us for cost any we desired to use outside of the city.

A committee of the staff of the Lying-in Hospital and the Congress have under advisement at the present time the matter of extending the scope of the Prenatal Clinic at the Lying-in, hoping thereby to reach a greater number of women before their babies are born, and by advice, care and instruction help lessen infant morbidity and mortality, and create a healthier and happier race of mothers.

HOW TO ORGANIZE A FREE BABY CONSULTATION

This may be undertaken by any group of interested women.

If possible, before starting the work it would be wise to visit one of the Consultations listed below.

Julian Street School Consultation meets every Saturday at 10 A.M.

South Main Street Consultation meets every Friday at 3:30 P.M.

Eden Park School Consultation meets every Thursday at 10 A.M.

Roosevelt Street School Consultation meets every Saturday at 10 A.M.

North End Dispensary meets every Tuesday at 3 P.M.

Atwells Avenue Clinic meets Monday and Friday at 10 A.M.

Willard Avenue Consultation meets every Saturday at 3 P.M.

The next step suggested is to consult with the chairman of the Baby Welfare Committee of Providence, explaining local conditions and any special difficulties to be met with.

If it is possible, have your Consultation in a school. It is easier to get the mothers to bring their babies here, rather than any other place.

Advertise the Consultation through the school, local papers, and district nurses, as well as by placards placed in the stores.

The equipment necessary for a Consultation consists of the following: Platform scales with weighing-basket and lining for same, record box and alphabetical guide, record book, small pads, pens, ink, blotters, ink-eraser, waste-paper basket, mop, crepe paper napkins (20 by 20), small hand basin and nail brush, soap, alcohol (95%), boric acid powder, stearate of zinc powder, boric acid ointment, zinc ointment, small pasteboard boxes for powders, small tin boxes for ointments, z. o. adhesive plaster, absorbent cotton, tongue depressors, pail or kettle in which to heat babies' bottles, and perhaps one-tenth grain calomel tablets.

One properly heated, lighted and ventilated room is necessary, two are decidedly better: one for waiting-room and to weigh the babies in; and the other for the physician, in which to see the mothers and babies individually. Of course, we take it for granted that there are plenty of chairs and two tables in the rooms, and running water near at hand. Posters on the walls and simple literature are helpful.

The weighing of the babies and taking of preliminary history can be done by the club members, preferably a small committee, so faithful that neither heat, cold, rain, snow nor blow will interfere with their attendance.

TENNESSEE

Bristol was the meeting place for the fifth annual convention of the Tennessee Branch of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations. Delegates were in attendance from all parts of the State and were most hospitably entertained.

Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, President, was prevented from being present by illness in her family.

Her place was filled by the Vice-Presidents from Bristol and Knoxville.

In her message Mrs. Crutcher said:

"First I wish to discuss our obligations to the national, for a national organization, less is demanded by the National Congress of Mothers than any other similar association. The help received and the inspiration gained is inestimable, and we fail, as children, to render to the national association the filial duty we owe.

WORK FOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE

"The question before us now is whether the coming year we will do our part not only to make the national the greatest conference ever held on the continent but to pay in pledges of five cents per capita for educational work. We are facing a big year, a full year, both in our local work and in the honor that is

before us in the coming of the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations in April. I hope all are enthusiastic about this meeting which we realize will bring great responsibilities as well as pleasures and privileges. We will have women from the farthest West and we hope from the farthest East and Canada.

"And now, friends, I would have you realize that this is Tennessee's opportunity, her opportunity to know and to be known. The coming Congress is Tennessee, not Nashville, and every one of us is a hostess to the stranger within our gates. Will you help? Will you write your friends and ask them to organize? Do you know former members? Bring them back into our ranks. Give your best efforts now. Do not wait until next week.

DISTRICT METHOD EFFICIENT

"We have found the district method most efficient in pushing forward the work of the congress. Two district conventions have been held in Middle Tennessee, the first last April in connection with the Middle Tennessee Educational Association. Your president addressed this splendid body of women on 'Aims and Purposes of Parent-Teacher Association.' A very helpful program had been arranged and many left inspired to organize circles in their respective districts.

"The second conference was in December. Your president spoke then on 'The Need for Parent-Teacher Associations.' As a result of this meeting we were inspired to exert every effort towards perfecting arrangements for the national. This is the third year of the existence of the district method and we find it invaluable as a means of reaching every section of the State.

"In working toward the solution of the problems which confront us and the aims and purposes of this organization, the National Congress of Mothers has created a number of departments working under able chairmen. To insure unity of action between the State and national bodies, each association should create and maintain such corresponding departments as are needed to meet the conditions in their associations. These departments have been organized to conform to the national. Each is presided over by an interested chairman who by this appointment becomes a member of a similar committee in the national body. Each circle should have a chairman appointed to cooperate with the State chairman in these various departments.

"The CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE, the official organ of the Congress, grows in interest and helpfulness with each number. Among

the many good things you are planning for next year, head the list with several extra subscriptions to the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE. We wish to make this the banner year.

"The members of the association should be more conversant with the real work of the Congress; should have the State minutes read at a meeting when received; and also have the CHILD-WELFARE MAGAZINE read. What would we do without it? Some one spoke of the magazine as our telephone. Let it connect each member of the Congress in communication one with the other. When this is done each one of our membership will bear another's burden, and the life of the whole Congress will be quickened and blessed. Take heart, friends, and read your magazine to discover how best you can help one another, and when you learn of a need, use our telephone to reach those whom you would help. The watchword of the hour is 'Helpfulness.' Isn't that a splendid word? And I ask you, one and all, to keep ever before you these words: 'Help One Another.'"

RECOMMEND LEGISLATION

The meetings yesterday morning and yesterday afternoon were featured by the adoption of resolutions instructing the legislative committee of the Congress to prepare bills for presentation at the next term of the Tennessee Assembly in which it is planned to attempt to secure what is felt to be needed legislation for child welfare. Responding to the plea made Friday by Mrs. Charles A. Perkins, of Knoxville, in which she deplored the fact that the educational bodies of the State could not legally use State money for the establishment of kindergartens and night schools, the Congress passed a resolution to instruct the legislative committee to prepare a bill authorizing the disbursement of State funds for any educational purpose. Another resolution passed provided for the preparation of a bill for the establishment of institutions in the State where deficient or defective children might be segregated. Another recommended the passage of a law to compel the fathers of illegitimate children to contribute to their support.

URGES STORY TELLING

That the story told to a child is recognized as essential to the acquirement by a child of better literature and an education was declared by Mrs. Cates when she urged the organization of story-telling clubs in the schools. "Story telling," she said, "educates and teaches the child while he is unconscious of being taught; it entertains. A good story provides food for a child's thought and a foundation for character building."

RECOMMENDS WORK FOR CHILDREN

Professor Keyes recommended that to aid the teachers in the school in the work of educating a child, the parents in the home should give that child something to do daily in an effort to make it love work. The home and the school, he said, are partners in the work of building citizens, and it is just as necessary, he declared, that the children be taught to have a right attitude toward work as it was for them to have a right attitude toward their studies. He recommended manual training and domestic science in the schools to continue the work which he said should be begun at home.

MISS MOORE SPEAKS

Miss Moore, who is employed now by the general educational board to cooperate with the department of agriculture in home economic extension in rural districts, was one of the original founders of the canning clubs in the South. She asked the aid of the city women for the women in the country, broadening the work of canning clubs to include better domestic conditions in the rural districts. She briefly pointed out the good accomplished by the canning clubs of the South, which she said were first organized in South Carolina five years ago. The work was financed then, she said, by John D. Rockefeller through the general educational board. Now, she said, every State in the South has canning clubs, and every State in the Union is to carry on home economic work through the extension department of its universities. There is money to be obtained by every county for this work, she said, provided that the county wanting it raised \$400 toward the \$700 that must be paid yearly as salary for a county agent. The remainder is provided by the government.

The First District School Improvement League of Chattanooga, also a member of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations, has installed a practical system of ventilation in its school building which insures a supply of fresh air at all times and without draughts.

These ventilators, two in each room, were made and installed by the boys in the manual training dept. of the High School, at nominal cost. These consist of a frame (the width of the window) ten inches in depth, so placed at the lower edge that the window sash inclines out at an angle of 45 degrees thus driving the cold upward instead of letting it blow on the children.

The League has also fitted up a kitchen in an alcove with gas stove, china, table cupboard and silver. Soup is served every day

at five cents a bowl at a profit, beside giving away some to needy children.

It has also bought a victrola with records suited to each grade, installed sanitary drinking fountains, and supplied the school with sanitary towels.

Mrs. G. M. Whittemore, State Chairman Child-Welfare Day, instructed all associations to participate in observance of Child-Welfare Day. Knoxville celebrated and sent a contribution of \$26.

Nashville Parent-Teacher Associations held a joint meeting at Hume-Fogg High School, with a fine program arranged by a committee of which Mrs. T. B. Agerton was chairman.

Over \$44 was received as a birthday gift to the National.

Wartrace and other towns observed the day.

TEXAS

Child-Welfare Day was widely observed in this state. Mrs. Ella C. Porter is chairman of Child-Welfare Day and provided a good program for its observance. Hillsboro celebrated with great enthusiasm.

Brownwood says: "Our observance of Child-Welfare Day was a splendid success, and will result in untold benefit to our Parent-Teacher Association. Not less than a hundred fathers and mothers were present. We sent an offering of \$5 to the National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations and \$2 to Texas Branch. At least half of this was given in pennies by the children of Coggan school. We had never observed Child-Welfare Day before, and as we wanted the children to catch the full meaning of the day, we explained it to them, and asked all who wanted to help some little child to bring a penny offering the next day. They responded almost to a child, a fact of which we were very proud."

Mantell writes: "We are thirty miles from a railroad and most of the members live on ranches five and six miles away from the school house. Nothing like this has ever been done here before. For over a month we worked to fulfill the request to celebrate Child-Welfare Day. Automobile trips of one and two hundred miles have been taken to secure a good speaker and music."

VERMONT

No More Minors in Pool Rooms—Parent-Teacher Association After Bowling Alleys Too—Women Discovered Truancy and Poor Standing Among Certain High School Boys and Set Out to Find the Cause—Campaign Was Successful.

That minors have been frequenting public pool rooms in this city has been an open

secret for many a day to all who keep in touch with what is doing in Rutland. That this condition has been in a measure alleviated and is to be greatly improved in the near future by the quiet work of a committee of the High School Parent-Teacher Association and by Grand Juror C. E. Novak, at their instigation, has been known only to a few.

It was found that many of the high-school boys were falling below the required standard in their school work and the committee started an investigation of the why for this. One reason for this condition of affairs needed no Sherlock Holmes to track down for all that was necessary for any one to do was to watch the boys as they left the high school to know where a large part of their time was spent.

WHAT THE LAW PRESCRIBES

The committee did not take hearsay reports of violation of the law by game room keepers, who permitted minors to patronize their places, but visited the places where reports of the most open violations had occurred. The law in connection was passed in 1906 and there has been no change made on the statute books concerning pool rooms since that time. It reads: "The owner or keeper of public bowling alleys or pool or billiard tables who permits a minor to play upon such alleys or tables, or to frequent as a place of resort the room or rooms containing such alley or tables, without the written consent of the parents or guardian of such minor, shall be fined not less than \$10 for each time he allows such minor to play upon such alley or table, or to frequent the room or rooms containing the same as a place of resort."

One of the keepers claimed he had the consent of some of the boys' parents, and the members of the committee, feeling that this was a rather strange situation, took the matter a step further and consulted the alleged granters of the permits and learned that the boys must have written their own letters. As the city officials claimed nothing could be done as long as proprietors had accepted permits in good faith a list of the parents who do not want their sons to frequent these places will be made and then if the keepers still allow these boys, many of whom are in knee breeches, to come to their rooms, they will be liable to the fine.

COMMITTEE MEANS BUSINESS

A number of times different committees from various organizations have made investigations and it has gone as far as a complaint being made to the authorities in charge with the result that for a week or two the boys would be debarred from the rooms.

Then as soon as the scare was over the boys would flock again to their old resorts. The present committee, it is stated, are determined to see the thing through to the end, without fear or favor.

They desire to give warning to the boys and hope it will answer every purpose as there is no desire on any one's part to do anything but a kindness to the lads. The women realize that the high-school pupils who signed their parents names to permits did not realize that they were committing a prison offense, that of forgery, and if the permits are withdrawn and they cease to break the law nothing further in their cases will be done by the committee. But the members intend to test the law and see that the owners of the establishments live up to the statute and that the parents of the boys who frequent these places are notified.

FASCINATIONS OF THE GAME

Some of the boys have the "disease" in such a violent form that they spend a part of the noon hour at pool rooms. This is known to be a fact by the committee as they have seen the lads go to the gaming tables at that time.

In one instance it was known by the committee that one of the boys who told his father he had been kept at school was at that time in a game.

At a meeting of the presidents of Parent-Teacher Associations of Rutland and vicinity the question of moving pictures was discussed. The women will take steps to see that a better class of movies is provided for the Saturday shows. The heads of the Parent-Teacher Associations also want to see the old curfew law reinstated.

PITTSFORD'S BOYS' CLUB HOUSE OPENED

Eaton Hall, Finely Equipped Building, Social Center for Boys' Works

Public exercises were held in connection with the inauguration of the teaching of agriculture in the schools of Pittsford and the opening of Eaton Hall as a club house for the men and boys of Pittsford. Mr. Cadwell, as chairman of the evening, presented the policy and aim of the boys' club work about to be entered upon in this town.

Aim of Club

The aim, he said, is to reach and interest every boy over 10 years of age in Pittsford in physical, mental and moral development. In order to accomplish this in practical ways, Richard Fischer, a graduate of the Cornell Agricultural College, class of 1915, has been made superintendent and leader of the Boys' Club and agricultural instructor in the schools

of Pittsford, one half of his time to be spent in the club work and the remainder in the schools. Naturally his work in the club will center in and around Eaton Hall, which has been well equipped by Miss Eaton. The name proposed is "The Boys' Achievement Club of Pittsford."

This winter the course in agriculture will be necessarily more or less theoretical, but with the coming of spring each boy will be provided, either by his parents, or from some other source, with a plot of ground upon which to grow corn, potatoes, cabbage, turnips or whatever else he may elect.

The superintendent will see to it that they prepare the soil, plant the seed, cultivate and harvest the crop in the most approved and scientific fashion. Next fall a town fair will be held to show results of the season's work. Prizes will be given.

TO DIRECT SPORTS

Mr. Fischer will direct and organize the different sports—baseball, football, tennis, cross country runs, hikes, etc. To sum it all up Mr. Cadwell said: "Our superintendent will be the big brother to the boys of Pittsford."

The membership fee for the Boys' Club will be \$1 a year and each boy will be asked to earn it in some way and not ask his parents for it. It is hoped that the boys' work in agriculture, poultry raising and kindred lines will be so successful that many may be able to acquire a bank account large enough to help them in their education after they leave the high school. To this end the officers of the club will make arrangements with some savings bank whereby Mr. Fischer may open accounts.

A word was also spoken about the Men's Club. The privileges of the building will be open to members every evening. It is hoped that the members of the Farmers' Club of Pittsford will hold meetings in Eaton Hall and make it their headquarters; in fact, the schools, the Parent-Teacher Association or any other club of a similar nature may use the assembly room at any time when it does not conflict with any of the regular club activities. The present bequest of Eaton Hall, with its up-to-date equipment and a large financial share in its maintenance, is made possible by the untiring energy, broad-minded charity and practical philanthropy of the donor. Again all this seems to be prompted by faith in the people of Pittsford and we believe this faith is well founded and that through the coöperation of our people this project will be a fitting monument to the public spirit and large-hearted generosity of Miss Mary J. Eaton.

The handsome year book issued by the Congress shows 24 Parent-Teacher Associations in membership.

Prof. E. L. Ingals, Chairman of Boys and Girls' Welfare League, Burlington, and State Agent of Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics of University of Vermont, has found the Parent-Teacher Associations very helpful in his work.

Fairhaven Parent-Teacher Association had a unique and delightful celebration Christmas eve.

Pupils of the grades and high school chaperoned by members of the Parent-Teacher Association went around the town in a barge and sang Christmas Carols to the shut-ins.

Brandon Parent-Teacher Association gave a reception to the teachers at their last meeting.

Rutland Parent-Teacher Association are doing much for the improvement and entertainment of the schools.

SPRINGFIELD

The Parent-Teacher Association held a very successful meeting on the evening of Child-Welfare Day.

Seventy men and women were out. The program included music, reading of the work done by the Congress since its organization and an address on "The Conservation of the Boy" by Rev. Mr. Williams.

A silver collection was taken and we have over \$700 to send in to the National Child-Welfare Fund.

Our membership is constantly increasing. The meetings are well attended. Parents are especially interested in discussions which seem to them to help bring about better conditions for their children.

WASHINGTON

6000 Reading Courses for Parents in use in Washington—Fathers Visit Tacoma Schools—Child Welfare Day Proclaimed by Governor Lester—School Children Have Blunder Box—Circuit for Moving Picture Films

Washington has been snowbound the past six weeks. Many schools were closed because of the impassable condition of the roads. Meetings of Mothers' Circles in rural districts were held in the homes.

Inspiration was gained to increase their membership, push the loan papers, equip rest rooms, provide flags in each school room for flag drills, carry out the hot lunch system and better roads. Moving picture men at the request of Parent-Teacher Associations in a group of Washington towns have formed a circuit to provide, on Saturday afternoons, matinees for children, at which no film not recommended by the Parent-Teacher Associ-

ation Committee is shown. Other towns have signified their intentions of joining this circuit.

Our state has been particularly lacking in both birds and bird interest. Now through the efforts of club women all school children are becoming more interested in bird life. Certain clubs offer prizes this spring to the boys and girls who make the best bird house.

The state executive committee of the Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations has sent out six thousand copies of reading courses for parents.

An original idea was inaugurated in a Tacoma public school. Twenty-five fathers visited the school and saw their children in their classes. The children attended the school that night instead of during the day for the purpose of allowing the fathers to see the routine. No coaching or special preparation was done, but the children acted as though it was day time and they were attending regular classes.

The splendid work done by State chairman of Loan Papers, Mrs. Chas. Hord, of Olympia, must not be overlooked. Active in church, state and school work, she organized 21 Parent-Teacher Associations in the county and five in the state since the new year.

Mutiny Bay School for two years has been trying to introduce the hot lunch. Last summer a strawberry festival was held and part of the proceeds were used to purchase dishes; the remainder bought the necessary groceries. Vegetables, milk and bacon are liberally furnished by the patrons. The children enjoy it. They report a very interesting language device called the "Blunder Box." Whenever a pupil notices a mistake in the use of language made by another, he makes a note of it and drops it in the "Blunder Box." Each Friday the box is opened, mistakes read and corrected.

Washington Branch of Congress of Mothers is proud of its new member, the young son and heir of our President, Mrs. Beach.

Child-Welfare Day was more universally observed than ever before in Washington.

The Governor issued a proclamation in which he commends the idea of the day to the attention of all persons and institutions in the state of Washington who are interested in or concerned with the training of children.

"Realizing the important part that proper environment and correct training play in the development of good citizens it has become the custom for parents, churches, women's clubs, civic clubs and other organizations to devote special attention on this particular day to the needs of childhood and the lifting up of the home and the state to a higher plane of physical, moral and social efficiency as a result of more intelligent care of children.

"I feel that all will agree that the plan is a worthy one, and that by following it good results will be produced on the citizens of tomorrow. As the twig is bent so the tree is inclined, and as the child is taught to know and to discriminate in matters of proper living and right conduct so is the future citizenship of the community strengthened and fortified.

"I sincerely hope that National Child-Welfare Day will be generally recognized in the state of Washington and that those who have it in their power will devote special effort in assisting a proper observance of the day."

Seattle Central Council held a Child-Welfare Luncheon at the Y. W. C. A. with a good program and attendance. Tacoma Association held a union meeting in the Lincoln Park High School. Mrs. J. C. Todd was one of the speakers. Speaking on "Child Welfare," Mrs. Arthur C. Merrill declared that knowledge which will fit women for motherhood should stand first in the curriculum of education for women. "Strictly scholastic study must take second place," she added.

Tacoma has the honor of being the city in which the first Parent-Teacher Association was formed in this state, Mrs. Alexander Coutts brought out in telling what the Washington state branch does for child welfare. The event occurred in 1905.

SPREADS LIKE PRAIRIE FIRE

"It will stand as an epoch in the history of the state," Mrs. Coutts said. The speaker likened the spread of the associations to a prairie fire. "The field was ripe for just such a movement and needed but a spark to start it." Mrs. Coutts declared that a movement which resulted in 15,000 or 20,000 meeting at least once a month to consider the welfare of the child, as is now the case in Washington, could not help but have a powerful effect.

Assistant Superintendent E. E. Crook of the city schools reported on the results of a list of questions concerning the work of the parent-teacher association sent by him to the teachers of the Tacoma schools. He received about 325 answers, and told the association members last night that a great majority of the teachers were enthusiastic in praise of the coöperation and accomplishment made through the associations.

"It has now become the strongest factor for educational progress in the city," Mr. Crook said of the Parent-Teacher Association.

Olympia circles held a Child-Welfare Day Tea in the Public Library. Mrs. Chas. Hord, Thurston Co. Parent-Teacher Association president, and C. C. Thomasson from the State Department of Education gave the addresses. Aberdeen held a union meeting in

their high school with Mrs. G. Dowe McQuesten, of Tacoma, as speaker. Other towns and many rural associations held special meetings.

Washington rejoices over another county seat organizing parents associations. Mrs. Chas. Hord acts as organizer for the state and on February 9 a splendid Parent-Teacher Association was launched at Montesana, Grays Harbor County, Mrs. J. E. Hutcheson, president.

Thurston county held a very profitable county convention in Olympia February 19.

Alders Grove has a new association with Mrs. E. W. Clark as President. This makes twenty-two Parent-Teacher Associations in Thurston County.

WISCONSIN

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PARENT-TEACHER WORK IN KENOSHA SINCE 1912

In the fall of 1912, some ten women, mothers of high-school boys and girls, met at the home of Mrs. Melta I. Tremper and talked over the possibility of organizing a Parent-Teacher Association in the high school. A meeting followed shortly with about forty mothers and teachers present and the organization completed.

At the close of the year 1913-14 there were seven working Parent-Teacher organizations in Kenosha. During the year there are over sixty meetings with about six hundred attending the seven, each month. In sixty meetings, or one year, we have reached about 3,600, a most conservative estimate, as the Presidents will realize.

Our purpose in the work is to give parents and teachers the opportunity for social intercourse, to study child training, and to so acquaint the parents with the aims of the school that they may be brought to realize what they are asking of the schools. We are a humble group of workers watching at the threshold of the future citizens and eagerly catching at the best solution of our particular problem. There is a little poem which gives us food for thought:

They all sat around in friendly chat
Discussing mostly this and that,
And a hat.
Until a neighbor's wayward lad
Was seen to act in ways quite bad;
Oh, 'twas sad!
One thought she knew what must be done
With every child beneath the sun—
She had none.
And ere her yarn had been quite spun
Another's theories were begun—
She had one.

The third was not so sure she knew,
But thus and so she thought she'd do—
She had two.

The next one added: "Let me see;
These things work out so differently"—
She had three.

The fifth drew on her wisdom store
And said, "I'd have to think it o'er"—
She had four.

And then one sighed, "I don't contrive
Fixed rules for boys, they're too alive"—
She had five.

"I know it leaves one in a fix
This straightening of crooked sticks"—
She had six.

And one declared, "There's no rule giv'n,
But do your best and trust to heav'n!"
She had sev'n.

—Alice Crowell Hoffman.

The physical needs of the child have been the source of concern in our work only so far as it did not interfere with school regime or municipal supervision.

A movement for better drinking water for the pupils started in the High School Parent-Teacher Association resulted in the school board providing pure water for every school plant in the city, by means of deep drilled wells.

Our most successful social center movement was first agitated in the Parent-Teacher organization when H. O. Berg, Recreation Director of Milwaukee, came to us in May, 1913, with an illustrated lecture on "Wider Use of the School Plant" and spoke to some 250 people.

At the social center dances and all other entertainments of children at the Bain school the Parent-Teacher mothers and fathers are the accepted chaperones.

I wish it were possible for me to cite all of the subjects discussed which have had actual material and moral results to their respective communities.

The talk by Miss Beck on "Breakfasts for Children" with balanced menus written on the board, was of material value to the De-ming School mothers. The circulating library has done much for the parents of the Frank School district. The Weiskopf-Gillett Association has done wonderful work in membership, has given considerable necessary equipment to the school and has promoted good fellowship between parents and teachers. The Columbus school has shown a decided increase in numbers at each meeting. Talks have been given along every line of child training and a Harvest Festival this last fall showed splendid coöperation.

A talk by Dr. Rowell on "Care of the Six-year Molars" before the Durkee School

patrons, resulted in many children being cared for by their respective dentists, which was a source of great satisfaction to the teachers.

The Parent-Teacher organization by thinking in world terms of humanity hopes to reduce the cost of remedial measures. Shall we lend a hand in a financial way to help erect a home for delinquents? Our aim is rather to raise home ideals and standards so that homes for delinquents will not be needed.

We believe that the moral influence resulting from our meetings is of more importance than the material results. Certainly better equipment, school recreation, lunch rooms, new buildings, social centers, pure drinking water and sanitary conditions are important to the school but they are principally valuable as indicating a better influence for the development of the child.

In order to better correlate the work of our associations we formed the Parent-Teacher Council. This council is composed of all the presidents, vice-presidents, one delegate appointed each month from each

school, the Superintendent of Schools and the President of the Board of Education. The council meets once a month after all the associations have held their respective meetings. We carefully study together the needs of the seven groups and then each group works out its problems according to community conditions. I quote from the Year Book of the Illinois Congress of Mothers: "The National Mothers Congress and Parent-Teacher Associations, whose nineteenth birthday we are celebrating today and of which every Parent-Teacher group in Kenosha is a member, is the only lay organization in the country that is entirely devoted to the study of child welfare. Other clubs are doing splendid work along educational, civic and cultural lines, and educational committees report a good deal of work done *for* the schools. But there is this difference in our methods, they are doing it *for* the schools, while the Parent-Teacher Associations are doing it *in* and *through* the schools."

Nature's Neglected Masterpiece

By JULIA GERSTENBERG

The author, the composer, crones over his conception, planning beauty and perfection. The artist loves his creation and, though starving, will not part with it. The sculptor destroys his statue if it does not meet with his ideal. All these brain creations are petted, molded, constructed until considered examples of art worthy to be exhibited to the world; but Nature's living greater art, the child, too often, is crippled before it sees the light of day, or is cradled in ignorance. Stop and think, men and women, you creators of Nature's masterpieces, in your mad rush for other excellencies, that the climax of your lives after all and above all, is the child in its perfection.

Endowment Fund

Previously reported	\$4,422.00	New Hampshire State Branch	5.00
Buenna Parent-Teacher Association, Buenna, Washington	5.00	Bryant Circle, Tacoma, Wash.	5.00
Whittier Circle Parent-Teacher Association, The Dalles, Ore.	2.50	Lincoln High School, Seattle, Wash.	2.50
West End Circle Parent-Teacher Association, The Dalles, Ore.	2.50	California State Branch	20.00
Illinois State Branch	25.00	Los Angeles District, Congress of Mothers, California	20.00
		Utah State Branch	100.00

Child-Welfare Day Contributions

Coalinga Parent-Teacher Association, Coalinga, Calif.....	2.00	Horace Mann School Parent-Teacher Association, Kansas City, Mo.....	2.31
Haight School Mothers Club, Alameda, Calif.....	2.50	Federated Clubs of Lafayette, Ind. Tennessee Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations....	3.00
Fifth St. School Parent-Teacher Association, San Pedro, Calif....	5.00	Parent-Teacher Association, Coatesville, Penna.....	1.00
Illinois Branch, National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations.....	50.00	Parent-Teacher Association, Springfield, Vermont.....	1.00
Fulton St. Parent-Teacher Association, Auburn, N. Y.....	2.00	Twentieth Century Mothers Club, Ensley, Alabama.....	7.25
Mothers Club, Branchport, N. Y....	1.00	Mothers Club, South Deerfield....	2.00
Mothers Club, Buffalo, N. Y.....	5.00	Manchester Parent-Teacher Association, Manchester, Mass.....	1.50
Mothers and Teachers Club, Gates, N. Y.....	2.00	Bloomington Parent-Teacher Association, Worcester, Mass.....	10.00
Mothers Club, Hilton, N. Y.....	2.00	Hull and Nantasket Parent-Teacher Association, Hull, Mass.....	2.00
Mothers Club, Hammondsport, N. Y.....	3.00	Collins Parent-Teacher Association, Gloucester, Mass.....	3.00
Mothers Club, Munnsville, N. Y....	2.00	Parent-Teacher Association, North Grafton, Mass.....	5.00
Mothers Club, Oneida, N. Y.....	5.00	Highland School Parent-Teacher Association, Holyoke, Mass.....	3.87
Mothers Club of School no. 15, Rochester, N. Y.....	5.00	Adams Square Parent-Teacher Association, Worcester, Mass.....	3.00
Home and School Club, Union Springs, N. Y.....	2.00	Pierce School Parent-Teacher Association, N. Leominster, Mass....	10.00
Mrs. Ray Dunham, Hornell, N. Y....	1.00	Mothers Association, Leominster, Mass.....	3.00
Mrs. Edward Harding, Yonkers, N. Y.....	1.00	George St. Parent-Teacher Association, Leominster, Mass.....	5.00
Mothers Club, Silver Creek, N. Y....	1.00	Lancaster St. Parent-Teacher Association, Leominster, Mass.....	1.00
Parent-Teacher Association, Oswego, N. Y.....	2.00	Field School Parent-Teacher Association, Leominster, Mass.....	1.00
Parent-Teacher Association, Yonkers, N. Y.....	10.00	Collection taken at Mass Meeting at Leominster, Mass.....	5.00
Albany Mothers Club as follows:		Parent-Teacher Association, Ward Hill, Mass.....	2.00
Mrs. David O. Mears.....	100.00	Parent-Teacher Association, Rockport, Mass.....	3.55
Mrs. E. Darwin Jenison.....	5.00	Parent-Teacher Association, Bedford, Mass.....	2.00
Mrs. James R. Barcus.....	5.00	Magnolia Parent-Teacher Association, Gloucester, Mass.....	3.09
Collection taken at meeting....	10.00	Ingleside Parent-Teacher Association, Holyoke, Mass.....	2.00
Mothers Club, Taylor, Texas.....	1.00	Mrs. Earl William Smith, Waban, Mass.....	4.25
Ruiz School Parent-Teacher Association, San Antonio, Texas.....	1.00		
John Armstrong School Parent-Teacher Association, Dallas, Texas.....	6.40	Total.....	\$4,937.77
Palm School Parent-Teacher Association, San Marcos, Texas....	1.00		
Mothers Club, Athens, Texas.....	2.50		
Parent-Teacher Association, Boerene, Texas.....	1.00		
Grant Circle Parent-Teacher Association, Watertown, S. Dakota.	1.00		
Central Circle Parent-Teacher Association, S. Dakota.....	.55		
Prospect Parent-Teacher Association, Conn.....	.50		

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